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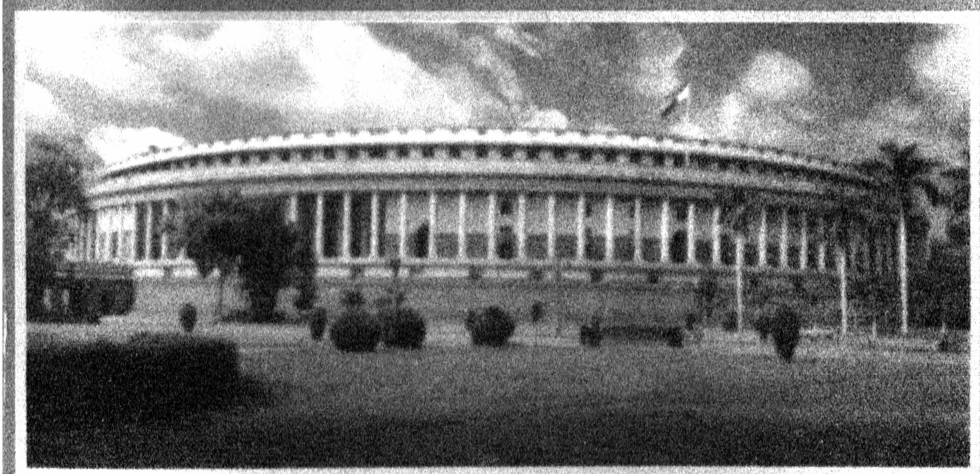

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT, NEW DELHI

The Journal of Parliamentary Information

VOLUME L NO. 1 MARCH 2004

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THE JOURNAL OF PARLIAMENTARY INFORMATION

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EDITORIAL NOTE

India, in its long march through the centuries, has been fortunate to have been served by many leaders who have contributed immeasurably in ensuring a pride of place for the country among the comity of nations. As a mark of respect to the sacrifices made by these outstanding leaders, statues of several of these great sons and daughters of our land have been installed from time to time in the Parliament House Complex.

On 3 December 2003, the Prime Minister of India, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, unveiled the statue of the revered social reformer of the nineteenth century, Shri Jyotirao Govindrao Phule, popularly known as Mahatma Jyotirao Phule, in the precincts of Parliament House. The statue, 12 feet in height, was sculpted by the well-known sculptor Padmashri Ram V. Sutar and was donated by the Government of Maharashtra. The function was attended among others, by the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri Bhairon Singh Shekhawat; the Deputy Prime Minister of India, Shri L.K. Advani; the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Manohar Joshi; Union Ministers; the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Smt. Sonia Gandhi; the Leader of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha, Dr. Manmohan Singh; the Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Shri Sushil Kumar Shinde; the Deputy Chairperson, Rajya Sabha, Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla; the Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri P.M. Sayeed; the Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Shri Chhagan Bhujbal; and members of Parliament, former members and several other dignitaries.

Earlier, the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri Bhairon Singh Shekhawat, inaugurated an Exhibition titled *Mahatma Jyotirao Phule—A Great Social Reformer.* The Exhibition was put up by the Parliamentary Museum and Archives (PMA) of the Lok Sabha Secretariat in cooperation with the Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity (DAVP) in the Lawns near Gate No. 5 of Parliament House.

At the function, the Vice-President also released a publication on Mahatma Jyotirao Phule covering his profile and some select photographs brought out by the Research and Information Division of the Lok Sabha Secretariat. A Short Note titled *Unveiling of the Statue of Mahatma Jyotirao Phule in Parliament Complex* is featured in this issue of the *Journal.*

We also carry in this issue the other regular features, *viz.* Parliamentary Events and Activities, Procedural Matters, Parliamentary and Constitutional Developments, Sessional Review, Recent Literature of Parliamentary Interest and Appendices.

It has been our constant endeavour to make the *Journal* more useful and informative. We would greatly welcome suggestions for its further improvement. We also welcome practice and problem-oriented, non-partisan articles in the field of parliamentary procedures and institutions from members of Parliament and State Legislatures, scholars and others interested in the field of parliamentary political science.

—G.C. Malhotra
Editor

1

UNVEILING OF THE STATUE OF MAHATMA JYOTIRAO PHULE IN PARLIAMENT COMPLEX

On 3 December 2003, the Prime Minister of India, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, unveiled the statue of Mahatma Jyotirao Phule in the precincts of the Parliament House.

Jyotirao Govindrao Phule, popularly known as Mahatma Jyotirao Phule, was a charismatic and a highly revered social reformer of the nineteenth century. A man of action, he worked ceaselessly for the eradication of unjust customs, inhuman practices and all other forms of social discrimination. He took up cudgels against the social inequalities perpetrated by the caste system. He espoused the cause of the marginalised, ignored, the oppressed, downtrodden and the socio-economically backward sections of society.

Mahatma Jyotirao Phule's life and works demonstrate a deep understanding of human dignity and suffering. He envisaged a society based on justice, liberty, equality and fraternity. He was of the firm belief that true religion was one that unified men and women as equals rather than fragmenting and dividing them into separate social groups. Mahatma Phule always acted in conformity with the dictates of his conscience. His relentless crusade against the prejudiced, orthodox and retrogressive forces, combined with his dauntless courage, unwavering commitment and firm determination and resolve to work for the emancipation of the underprivileged to build a strong and vibrant nation, put him at a very high pedestal in our public life.

The statue of Mahatma Jyotirao Phule, 12 feet in height, was sculpted by the well known sculptor Shri Ram V. Sutar. The statue was donated by the Government of Maharashtra.

The function unveiling the statue of Mahatma Jyotirao Phule was attended, among others, by the Deputy Prime Minister of India, Shri L.K. Advani; the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Manohar Joshi; Union Ministers; the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Smt. Sonia Gandhi; the Leader of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha, Dr. Manmohan Singh; the Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Shri Sushil Kumar Shinde; the Deputy Chairperson, Rajya Sabha, Dr.(Smt.) Najma Heptulla; the Deputy Speaker,

Lok Sabha, Shri P.M. Sayeed; the Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Shri Chhagan Bhujbal; and members of Parliament and former members.

Earlier, the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri Bhairon Singh Shekhawat, inaugurated an Exhibition titled *'Mahatma Jyotirao Phule–A Great Social Reformer'*. The Exhibition was put up by the Parliamentary Museum and Archives (PMA) in cooperation with the Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity (DAVP) in the Lawns near Gate No.5 of the Parliament House.

At the function, the Vice-President also released a publication on Mahatma Jyotirao Phule covering his profile and some select photographs brought out by the Research and Information Division of the Lok Sabha Secretariat.

Dignitaries at the unveiling of the statue of Mahatma Jyotirao Phule

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PARLIAMENTARY EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIA

The 10th General Assembly of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentarians Conference on Environment and Development (APPCED), Cozumel Island (Mexico): The 10th General Assembly of the Asia Pacific Parliamentarians Conference on Environment and Development (APPCED) was held in Cozumel Island (Mexico) from 13 to 15 November 2003.

The Indian Parliamentary Delegation to the Assembly was led by Prof. Saif-ud-Din Soz, MP, Rajya Sabha. The other members of the Delegation were: Prof. I.G. Sanadi and Shri Chandra Vijay Singh, both members of Parliament. Shri John Joseph, Additional Secretary, Lok Sabha Secretariat was the Secretary to the Delegation.

The General Assembly deliberated on the theme: "Working Together towards Sustainable Development: What is Next after Johannesburg Summit?". Based on the general theme, the Assembly held discussions on the following topics:

- Sharing technology and information for development;
- Alimentary sufficiency and agrarian matter; and
- Lodging Johannesburg's Agenda in Regional Mechanism at Central Asia, Pacific and Latin America.

The 49th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference in Dhaka, Bangladesh: The 49th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference was held in Dhaka, Bangladesh, from 6 to 12 October 2003. The theme of the Conference was "Partnerships for Global Peace and Prosperity" and the following subjects were discussed in the Workshops: (i) Parliament and the Executive: Building a More Effective Partnership; (ii) Do We have Adequate Peace Keeping Mechanisms for Preserving World Order?; (iii) Are the Millennium Development Goals Achievable? (iv) Reconciling Human Rights with Cultural Diversity; (v) How can the Doha Round Contribute to Increasing Trade and Investment Opportunities for Developing Nations?; and (vi) Anti-Terrorism Legislation: Have we Achieved any Tangible Results? The Indian Delegation to the Conference was led by the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Manohar Joshi.

The other members of the Delegation were: Sarvashri Bijoy Krishna Handique, MP (Lok Sabha); Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi, MP (Rajya Sabha); Anadi Charan Sahu, MP (Lok Sabha); Jayanta Bhattacharya, MP (Rajya Sabha); and Rashid Alvi, MP (Lok Sabha). The Secretary-General, Lok Sabha, Shri G.C. Malhotra was the Secretary to the Delegation. Besides, Shri Suresh Ramrao Jadhav, MP (Lok Sabha) and the Secretary-General, Rajya Sabha, Dr. Yogendra Narain, also attended the Conference as Observers.

The Delegation also included the following members from the CPA State Branches of India: the Speaker of the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly, Smt. K. Prathibha Bharathi; the Speaker of the Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly, Shri Setong Sena; the Speaker of the Assam Legislative Assembly, Shri Prithibi Majhi; the Speaker of the Bihar Legislative Assembly, Shri Sadanand Singh; the Speaker of the Goa Legislative Assembly, Shri Vishwas R. Satarkar; the Speaker of the Gujarat Legislative Assembly and Regional Representative of the Asia Region to the CPA Executive Committee, Shri Mangalbhai Patel; Shri Bharat Chimanlal Barot, member of Gujarat Legislative Assembly; the Speaker of the Haryana Legislative Assembly, Shri Satbir Singh Kadian; the Speaker of the Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly, Shri G.R. Musaffir; the Chairman of the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Council and Regional Representative of the Asia Region to the CPA Executive Committee, Shri Abdul Rashid Dar; the Deputy Speaker of the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly, Mohd. Akbar Lone; Shri Furkan Ansari, member of Jharkhand Legislative Assembly; the Chairman of the Karnataka Legislative Council, Shri B.L. Shankar; the Speaker of the Kerala Legislative Assembly, Shri Vakkom Purushothaman; the Chairman of the Maharashtra Legislative Council, Prof. N.S. Pharande; the Speaker of the Manipur Legislative Assembly, Shri T.N. Haokip; the Speaker of the Meghalaya Legislative Assembly, Shri Martin M. Danggo; the Speaker of the Mizoram Legislative Assembly, Shri Lalawia Renthlei; the Speaker of the Nagaland Legislative Assembly, Shri Kiyaneilie Peseyie; the Speaker of the Orissa Legislative Assembly, Shri Sarat Kumar Kar; the Speaker of the Punjab Legislative Assembly, Dr. Kewal Krishan; the Speaker of the Sikkim Legislative Assembly, Smt. Kalawati Subba; the Deputy Speaker of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, Shri A. Arunachalam; the Speaker of the Tripura Legislative Assembly, Shri R.C. Debnath; the Speaker of the Uttaranchal Legislative Assembly, Shri Yashpal Arya; the Speaker of the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly, Shri Keshari Nath Tripathi; the Speaker of the West Bengal Legislative Assembly and Regional Representative of the Asia Region

to the CPA Executive Committee, Shri Hashim Abdul Halim; Shri Robin Deb, member of the West Bengal Legislative Assembly; and the Speaker of the Pondicherry Legislative Assembly, Shri M.D.R. Ramachandharan.

The Principal Secretary of the West Bengal Legislative Assembly, Shri Manoranjan Sarker; the Secretary of the Punjab Legislative Assembly, Shri S. Nachhattar Singh Mavi; the Secretary of the Kerala Legislative Assembly, Shri K.R. Udayabhanu and the Secretary of the Gujarat Legislative Assembly, Shri D.M. Patel, were the four Secretaries from the State Branches who attended the Conference.

The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Manohar Joshi was one of the two lead speakers on the topic "Parliament and the Executive: Building a More Effective Partnership". The Final Plenary discussed the subject "Balancing Multilateral Support and National Sovereignty: Managing the Interface between the International Community and Local Interest".

A meeting of the CPA Executive Committee was held in Dhaka on 5 and 6 October 2003. Shri Rashid Alvi, MP, Lok Sabha, attended the meeting as alternate member in place of the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Manohar Joshi.

Election of Regional Representatives from the CPA Asia Region to the CPA Executive Committee: Shri Suresh Ramrao Jadhav, MP (Lok Sabha), from the India Union Branch of the CPA, and Mr. Ahmad Zahir, member of the People's Majlis, Maldives, were elected Regional Representatives for the Asia Region of the CPA for the period 2003-2006.

Meeting of Society of Clerks-at-the-Table during the 49th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference in Bangladesh: The Secretary-General, Lok Sabha, Shri G.C. Malhotra and the Secretary-General, Rajya Sabha, Dr. Yogendra Narain attended the 40th General Meeting of the Society of Clerks-at-the-Table in Dhaka, Bangladesh on 9 and 10 October 2003. The Secretary-General, Lok Sabha, Shri G.C. Malhotra presented a paper on the topic "The Scrutiny of Public Expenditure by Parliamentary Committee".

Third Canadian CPA Seminar in Ottawa: The Third Canadian CPA Seminar was held in Ottawa, Canada, from 23 to 29 November 2003. Sardar Simranjit Singh Mann, MP (Lok Sabha) and Dr.(Smt.) V. Saroja, MP (Lok Sabha), from the India Union Branch of the CPA, attended the Seminar. The Speaker, Haryana Legislative Assembly, Shri Satbir Singh Kadian, from the Haryana State Branch of the CPA, also attended the Seminar.

CPA Workshop on Engendering Development and Democracy in Abuja, Nigeria: The CPA Workshop on Engendering Development and Democracy was held in Abuja, Nigeria, from 3 to 5 December 2003. Smt. Prabha Rau, MP (Lok Sabha), from the India Union Branch of the CPA, attended the Workshop.

Unveiling of the Statue of Mahatma Jyotirao Phule in Parliament Complex: On 3 December 2003, the Prime Minister, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, unveiled the statue of Mahatma Jyotirao Phule*, a highly revered social reformer of the nineteenth century, in the precincts of the Parliament House. The statue of Mahatma Jyotirao Phule was sculpted by the well known sculptor Shri Ram Sutar. The statue was donated by the Government of Maharashtra.

The Vice-President of India, Shri Bhairon Singh Shekhawat inaugurated an Exhibition titled 'Mahatma Jyotirao Phule-A Great Social Reformer' organised by the Parliamentary Museum and Archives in cooperation with the Directorate of Audio-Visual Publicity (DAVP). On the occasion, the Vice-President also released a publication titled *Mahatma Jyotirao Phule,* covering the profile and some select photographs of Mahatma Phule brought out by the Research and Information Division of the Lok Sabha Secretariat.

Celebrations to commemorate the 200th Session of the Rajya Sabha: To commemorate the 200th Session of the Rajya Sabha, various programmes and activities were organized from 11 to 17 December 2003. The celebrations began with the inaugural function held on 11 December 2003 in the Central Hall of Parliament House. The function was inaugurated by the President of India, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam.

On 12 December 2003, the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri Bhairon Singh Shekhawat, inaugurated an Exhibition in the Parliament House Annexe depicting the history and functioning of the Rajya Sabha during the last five decades.

As part of the celebrations, a Seminar was organized on 14 December 2003 with the theme 'Role and Relevance of Rajya Sabha in Indian Polity' in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Public Administration at Parliament House Annexe. The Seminar was inaugurated by the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri Bhairon Singh Shekhawat. The Secretary-General, Dr. Yogendra

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* For details, *see* Feature '*Unveiling of the Statue of Mahatma Jyotirao Phule in Parliament Complex*' at pp.3-4

Narain, delivered the Welcome Address. Many eminent persons from different walks of life spoke at the Seminar. On the occasion, the Vice-President released two books, '*Socio-economic Profile of Members of Rajya Sabha (1952-2002)*' and *'Humour in the House: A Glimpse into the Enlivening Moods of Rajya Sabha'* brought out by the Rajya Sabha Secretariat. The Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Dr.(Smt.) Najma Heptulla released two books *'Women Members of Rajya Sabha'* and *'Private Members' Legislation'*, also brought out by the Rajya Sabha Secretariat.

On 17 December 2003, the celebrations concluded with a Cultural Evening organized in coordination with the Indian Council of Cultural Relations at the Residence of the Vice-President of India, Shri Bhairon Singh Shekhawat.

BIRTH ANNIVERSARIES OF NATIONAL LEADERS

On the birth anniversaries of national leaders whose portraits adorn the Central Hall of Parliament House, functions are organised under the auspices of the Indian Parliamentary Group to pay tributes to the leaders. Booklets containing profiles of these leaders, prepared by the Library and Reference, Research, Documentation and Information Service (LARRDIS) of the Lok Sabha Secretariat, are brought out on the occasion.

The birth anniversaries of the following leaders were celebrated during the period 1 October to 31 December 2003.

Mahatma Gandhi and Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: On the occasion of the birth anniversaries of Mahatma Gandhi and Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri, a function was held on 2 October 2003. The Leader of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha, Dr. Manmohan Singh; the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Smt. Sonia Gandhi; the Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment, Dr. Satyanarayan Jatiya; members of Parliament; and former members of Parliament and others paid floral tributes.

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, a function was held on 31 October 2003. The Leader of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha, Dr. Manmohan Singh; the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Smt. Sonia Gandhi; the Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment, Dr. Satyanarayan Jatiya; the Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla; the Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri P.M. Sayeed; the Minister of State for Power,

Ms. Jayawanti Mehta; the Minister of State for Coal, Shri Prahlad Singh Patel; members of Parliament; and former members of Parliament and others paid floral tributes.

Deshbandhu Chittaranjan Das: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Deshbandhu Chittaranjan Das, a function was held on 5 November 2003. The Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Smt. Sonia Gandhi; the Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment, Dr. Satyanarayan Jatiya; the Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Dr.(Smt.) Najma Heptulla; the Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri P.M. Sayeed; members of Parliament; and former members of Parliament and others paid floral tributes.

Maulana Abul Kalam Azad: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, a function was held on 11 November 2003. The Leader of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha, Dr. Manmohan Singh; the Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla; the Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri P.M. Sayeed; members of Parliament; and former members of Parliament and others paid floral tributes.

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, a function was held on 14 November 2003. The Leader of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha, Dr. Manmohan Singh; the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Smt. Sonia Gandhi; the Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla; the Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri P.M. Sayeed; the Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Agro and Rural Industries, Shri Sangh Priya Gautam; members of Parliament; and former members of Parliament and others paid floral tributes.

Smt. Indira Gandhi: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Smt. Indira Gandhi, a function was held on 19 November 2003. The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Manohar Joshi; the Leader of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha, Dr. Manmohan Singh; the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Smt. Sonia Gandhi; the Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla; the Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Agro and Rural Industries, Shri Sangh Priya Gautam; members of Parliament; and former members of Parliament and others paid floral tributes.

Dr. Rajendra Prasad: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Dr. Rajendra Prasad, a function was held on 3 December 2003. The Deputy Prime Minister and in-charge of the Ministry of Home Affairs,

Shri L.K. Advani; the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Manohar Joshi; the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Smt. Sonia Gandhi; the Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment, Dr. Satyanarayan Jatiya; the Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla; the Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri P.M. Sayeed; the Minister of State for Home Affairs, Shri Swami Chinmayanand; the Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri Digvijay Singh; members of Parliament; and former members of Parliament and others paid floral tributes.

Shri C. Rajagopalachari: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Shri C. Rajagopalachari, a function was held on 10 December 2003. The Deputy Prime Minister and in-charge of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Shri L.K. Advani; the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Manohar Joshi; the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Smt. Sonia Gandhi; the Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment, Dr. Satyanarayan Jatiya; the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Health and Family Welfare, Smt. Sushma Swaraj; the Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Dr.(Smt.) Najma Heptulla; the Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri P.M. Sayeed; members of Parliament; and former members of Parliament and others paid floral tributes.

Chaudhary Charan Singh: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Chaudhary Charan Singh, a function was held on 23 December 2003. The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Manohar Joshi; the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Smt. Sonia Gandhi; the Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri P.M. Sayeed; members of Parliament; and former members of Parliament and others paid floral tributes.

Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya, a function was held on 25 December 2003. The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Manohar Joshi; the Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri P.M. Sayeed; members of Parliament; and former members of Parliament and others paid floral tributes.

EXCHANGE OF PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATIONS

INDIAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION GOING ABROAD

Iran: A 12-member Indian Parliamentary Delegation led by the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Manohar Joshi visited Iran from 4 to 6 November 2003. The other members of the Delegation were: Sarvashri S.S. Palanimanickam, Khan Ghufran Zahidi, Gordhanbhai Javia, A.F. Golam Osmani, all members of Parliament and the Secretary-General,

Lok Sabha, Shri G.C. Malhotra. Shri Brahm Dutt, Director, Lok Sabha Secretariat, was the Secretary to the Delegation.

FOREIGN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATIONS VISITING INDIA

Czech Republic: A Parliamentary Delegation from the Czech Republic, led by Senator Prof. Josef Jarab, Chairman of the Committee for Foreign Affairs, Defence and Security visited India from 15 to 21 November 2003.

On 17 November 2003, the Delegation called on the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Manohar Joshi, the Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri P.M. Sayeed and the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Health and Family Welfare, Smt. Sushma Swaraj. The Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri P.M. Sayeed hosted a dinner in honour of the visiting Delegation the same evening. On 18 November 2003, the Delegation had meetings with the members of the Standing Committees on External Affairs and Home Affairs. On 21 November 2003, the Delegation called on the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri Bhairon Singh Shekhawat and the Minister of External Affairs, Shri Yashwant Sinha.

Besides Delhi, the Delegation visited Agra and Dehradun.

Ukraine: A Parliamentary Delegation from Ukraine, led by the Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, Mr. Volodymyr Lytvyn visited India from 1 to 4 December 2003.

On 2 December 2003, the Delegation called on the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri Bhairon Singh Shekhawat. The Delegation called on the President of India, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Manohar Joshi and the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Health and Family Welfare, Smt. Sushma Swaraj, on 3 December 2003. The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Manohar Joshi, hosted a dinner in honour of the Delegation the same evening.

Besides Delhi, the Delegation visited Agra.

Indonesia: A Parliamentary Delegation from Indonesia, led by the Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives (DPR), Mr. Muhaimin Iskandar, visited India from 14 to 20 December 2003.

On 15 December 2003, the Delegation called on the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri Bhairon Singh Shekhawat, the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Manohar Joshi and the Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri P.M. Sayeed. The Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha,

Shri P.M. Sayeed, hosted a dinner in honour of the Delegation the same evening.

Besides Delhi, the Delegation visited Agra and Bangalore.

BUREAU OF PARLIAMENTARY STUDIES AND TRAINING

During the period 1 October to 31 December 2003, the Bureau of Parliamentary Studies and Training (BPST) organized the following Courses/Programmes:

Nineteenth Parliamentary Internship Programme for Foreign Parliamentary Officials: The Nineteenth Parliamentary Internship Programme for Foreign Parliamentary Officials was organized from 8 October to 28 November 2003. The Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri Digvijay Singh, inaugurated the Programme on 13 October 2003. Twenty participants from eleven countries, *viz.* Angola, Armenia, Bangladesh, Fiji, Ghana, Lithuania, Nepal, Russia, Sri Lanka, Tanzania and Zambia attended the Programme.

The Programme was designed to provide the parliamentary officials an opportunity to exchange their experiences in their Legislatures and to acquaint them with the environment, culture, traditions and working of parliamentary institutions in India.

Nineteenth International Training Programme in Legislative Drafting: The Nineteenth International Training Programme in Legislative Drafting was organized from 11 December 2003 to 13 February 2004. The Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri P.M. Sayeed, inaugurated the Programme on 15 December 2003. Twenty-two participants from fifteen countries, *viz.* Afghanistan, Antigua and Barbuda, Bhutan, Fiji, Georgia, Ghana, Haiti, Hungary, Madagascar, Mongolia, Namibia, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Uganda and Zambia attended the Programme. Four officers from the Lok Sabha Secretariat; one officer from the Rajya Sabha Secretariat; two officers from the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly Secretariat; and one officer each from the Orissa and Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly Secretariats also attended the Programme.

The Programme was designed to equip the parliamentary officials with basic concepts, skills and techniques required for drafting legislation so that they can assist members of Parliament when called upon to do so.

Visit by Foreign Officials: A Thai Delegation, consisting of sixty-nine participants, visited the Bureau as part of a study visit on

21 November 2003. The group was addressed by the former Speaker of the Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil, MP.

Appreciation Courses: Four Appreciation Courses in Parliamentary Processes and Procedures were organized covering Probationers of three Central Services, officers of Defence/Civilian Services and Senior Audit/Accounts Officers from the Office of the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India:

(i) Indian Statistical Service (3 to 7 November 2003);

(ii) (a) Indian Railway Service of Signal Engineers and (b) Indian Ordnance Factories Service (24 to 28 November 2003);

(iii) Officers of Defence/Civilian Services (2 to 5 December 2003); and

(iv) Senior Audit/Accounts Officers from the Office of the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India (8 to 12 December 2003).

Training Courses for Officers of Lok Sabha Secretariat and State Legislature Secretariats: The following four Training Courses for the Officers of the Lok Sabha Secretariat and State Legislature Secretariats were organized by the Bureau:

(i) A Training Programme for the officials appearing in the Departmental Examination against Promotion Quota for the Post of Senior Assistants and Research/Reference Assistants in Lok Sabha Secretariat was organized by the Bureau from 24 to 26 September 2003.

(ii) A training Programme for Librarians/Deputy Librarians of State Legislature Secretariats and Senior/Junior Library Assistants of the Parliament was organized from 13 to 17 October 2003. Twenty-one participants from nine States, *viz.* Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Jammu and Kashmir, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, Meghalaya and Orissa; one participant from the Rajya Sabha Secretariat; and six participants from the Lok Sabha Secretariat attended the Programme.

(iii) A Training Programme for the officials appearing in the Departmental Examination against Promotion Quota for the Post of Translators in the Lok Sabha Secretariat was organized by the Bureau during 15-16 October 2003.

(iv) A Training Programme for Security Assistants on Practice and Procedure and Inputs on Watch & Ward was organized by the Bureau from 20 to 31 October 2003.

Study Visits: The Bureau organized the following Study Visits for participants from various training and educational institutions as follows: (i) Institute of Secretarial Training and Management, New Delhi (28 October 2003 and 14 November 2003); (ii) Bloom Public School, New Delhi (29 October 2003 and 16 December 2003); (iii) Uranium Corporation of India, Ltd., Jharkhand (21 November 2003); (iv) Central Translation Bureau, New Delhi (11 December 2003); (v) Civic Society, Department of Education, University of Delhi (12 December 2003); and (vi) Sadhu Vasvani International School, New Delhi (22 December 2003).

3

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

LOK SABHA

Instance when documents certified by a member as true copy of the original were treated as papers laid on the Table after authentication by the concerned Ministry and authority: On 1 August 2003, Shri Madan Lal Khurana, member, while speaking during "Zero Hour", referred to and quoted from the following documents: *"Orders passed by the Excise Commissioner and certain allied papers* (54 pages)".

After finishing his speech, the member sought to lay the same on the Table of the House. He certified that the documents were true copy of the original and also signed on each page as required. As the documents were of a secret nature, they were referred to the Ministry of Finance for comments about their authenticity. The Ministry of Finance verified the documents to be authentic. The Commissioner of Excise, Chandigarh-I, also authenticated and certified them to be a true copy. The documents were then treated as papers laid on the Table, as they were referred to and there was a demand for laying them on the Table. The documents were placed in the Parliament Library.

Instance when documents certified by the member to be correct and based on authentic information were treated as papers laid on the Table: On 19 December 2003, Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi, member, during the discussion under Rule 193 on the "Recent Stamp Paper Scam," referred to and sought the permission of the Speaker to lay following documents: (i) Letter dated 22 November 2003, from the Chief Minister of Karnataka addressed to the Deputy Prime Minister; (ii) Letter dated 11 July 2002, from the Chief Minister of Karnataka addressed to the Finance Minister; and (iii) Letter dated 16 April 2003, from the Home Minister of Karnataka, addressed to the Finance Minister. The member certified that the contents of the documents were correct and based on authentic information, as required under Direction 118A. The documents, with the permission of Speaker, were treated as papers laid and were placed in the Parliament Library.

Instance when documents sought to be laid on the Table were not treated as papers laid and were returned to the members: During the Fourteenth Session, the following papers sought to be laid on the Table by members were not treated as papers laid and were returned to members: (i) On 5 December 2003, during the discussion under Rule

193 on the recent incidents of violence in Assam and some other parts of the country due to Recruitment Policy of the Railways, Shri Rajesh Ranjan alias Pappu Yadav, member, sought to lay copies of certain Press clippings regarding violence in Assam against the people of Bihar and a copy of a faxed letter addressed to him by the President, Non-Tribal Youth Union.

On 15 December 2003, during the discussion referred to above, Shri Prabhunath Singh, member, sought to lay on the Table a copy of a Press clipping from a Hindi daily titled "*Purvanchal Prahri*" dated 6 October 2003, containing the statement of the Minister of Agriculture, Planning and Development, Government of Assam, against the people of Bihar.

Since the members had not authenticated the documents as required under Directions 118A as also because there was no demand for laying the papers, the clippings from newspapers and letters were not allowed to be laid on the Table.

Members should not display placards in the House: On 3 December 2003, as soon as the House met, Shri Mohan S. Delkar, member, displayed a placard. Thereupon, the Speaker, Shri Manohar Joshi, observed that the member was not permitted to display placard in the House.

Press reports, unless admitted by the Government, cannot be accepted as authoritative for the purpose of an Adjournment Motion: On 5 December 2003, after the Question Hour, the Speaker, Shri Manohar Joshi, ruled:

> "Hon'ble members, as you are aware, yesterday some hon'ble members had raised matters relating to alleged involvement of a former Union Minister in a bribery case and reported misuse of the Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) by some Ministers of the Government through the notices of Adjournment Motion. I had also heard some of the hon'ble members and the hon'ble Minister of Parliamentary Affairs on the subject.
>
> As regards the matter relating to the alleged involvement of a former Union Minister in a bribery case, I may inform the hon'ble members that during the meeting of the Business Advisory Committee held on 3 December 2003, several hon'ble members had desired that the Prime Minister should make a statement in the House on the matter. The Hon'ble Minister of Parliamentary Affairs had stated that the House can discuss this matter on the statement of the Prime Minister which he may make after his return from abroad.
>
> I have, therefore, separated this matter from the other matter

relating to the alleged misuse of the PSUs by some Ministers of the Government.

As regards the issue of alleged misuse of the PSUs by some Ministers of the Government, I may mention that I have gone through the rules.

According to *Kaul and Shakdher* (page 503), there is no objection *per se* to the notice of an Adjournment Motion being given simply because it happens to be based on a newspaper report, but the Speaker, before accepting the motion, must be in possession of further facts. The Press reports, unless admitted by the Government, cannot be accepted as authoritative for the purpose of an Adjournment Motion.

Since the notices received were based on the Press reports, I had called for a factual note from the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions.

The note has since been received. The Government have conveyed that 'the Central Vigilance Commissioner (CVC) had called on the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 16 October 2003. During the meeting, the CVC gave a briefing in respect of various initiatives of the Commission during the past one year and also dwelt upon the need to remove the misplaced fear of vigilance in the minds of senior public sector executives which often leads to hesitation on their part in reaching decisions. Further, the CVC delineated various measures which could be taken towards promoting economy and accountability in the functioning of the Public Sector Undertakings. At no point did the CVC mention any name or make any allegation in respect of any Central Minister. There are no complaints 'of demanding money from the PSU Chiefs by the Ministers'.

Though the subject is important to merit discussion in the House, I do not consider it appropriate to adjourn the entire business for this purpose.

In view of the aforesaid, I am inclined to disallow the notices of the Adjournment Motion".

Instance when Chair did not exercise its casting vote, though division resulted in a tie, as the concerned motion was subsequently withdrawn: On 8 December 2003, during the clause-by-clause consideration of the Industrial Development Bank (Transfer of Undertaking and Repeal) Bill, 2002, Shri Basudeb Acharia moved an amendment (No. 5) to clause 4 *inter alia* making a 'provision in the Bill that the Central Government should hold not less than 51 per cent of its share at any point of time'.

Since, the Minister of Finance did not give a categorical assurance in the matter, the amendment was put to vote, which resulted in a tie. In the meantime, the Minister of Finance submitted that the moment the Industrial Development Bank of India was turned into a Bank subsequent to the passing of the Bill under consideration, statutory provisions governing the banking industry would become applicable to the IDBI too according to which the Government share-holding would not be less than 51 per cent. Thereupon, the Deputy Speaker, Shri P.M. Sayeed, who was in the Chair, sought to know whether Shri Acharia would withdraw the amendment moved by him, failing which he would have to exercise his casting vote. Accordingly, the amendment was withdrawn by leave of the House.

Instances when members whose names were not in the List of Business were allowed to ask clarificatory questions: On 11 December 2003, the Speaker, Shri Manohar Joshi, as a special case, allowed seven members Sarvashri E. Ahamed, Chandra Shekhar, Mohan Rawale, Prakash Jaiswal, Somnath Chatterjee, G.M. Banatwala and E.H. Muniyappa, whose names were not included in the List of Business, to ask clarificatory questions on Calling Attention regarding the collapse of the bridge linking Moti Daman and Nani Daman in the Union Territory of Daman and Diu.

On 22 December 2003, the Speaker, Shri Manohar Joshi, as a special case, allowed three members, Sarvashri Kodikunnil Suresh, K. Muraleedharan and Prof. A.K. Premajam, whose names were not included in the List of Business, to ask clarificatory questions on Calling Attention regarding the need for the speedy implementation of various ongoing Railway Projects in the State of Kerala.

Reply to clarificatory questions on Calling Attention held over to another date to enable the Prime Minister to make statement as demanded by members: On 12 December 2003, after the Minister of State in the Ministry of Planning, Shri Satya Brata Mookherjee, made a statement in response to attention called by a member, Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, regarding the need for a financial package for Bihar for the developmental works in the State, Clarificatory questions were asked by several members, including those whose names were not included in the List of Business. Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, supported by other members from Bihar, demanded the Prime Minister's reply to the clarificatory questions. Thereafter, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Smt. Sushma Swaraj, said that the Prime Minister would make a statement on a day convenient to him in response to the clarificatory questions. The Deputy Speaker, who was in Chair, agreed to it.

Accordingly, the item was included in the List of Business for 17 December 2003 and the Prime Minister made a statement in response to the clarificatory questions asked by members on

12 December 2003. Members were not allowed to seek further clarifications.

Resolution expressing anguish over recent incidents of violence in Assam and some other parts of the country due to recruitment policy of the Railways: On 15 December 2003, immediately after the discussion under Rule 193 on the above subject was concluded, the Speaker, Shri Manohar Joshi, placed the following Resolution before the House:

> "This House expresses its deep sense of anguish over the recent incidents of violence in Bihar, Assam, Maharashtra and some other parts of the country in the wake of Railway recruitment examinations in which many innocent lives have been lost and properties destroyed. Such incidents of parochialism should be countered unitedly and with determination.
>
> This House unanimously appeals to all to promote harmony and the spirit of common brotherhood amongst all the people of India transcending religious, linguistic, regional or sectional diversities. All issues that have a potential for promoting divisive tendencies and regional discord can and should be resolved through discussion, dialogue and other democratic means, and not through violent means.
>
> Let us resolve to protect the regional harmony, unity and integrity of the country and rededicate ourselves to this cause."

The Resolution was adopted unanimously.

No impropriety in terming Vote-on-Account as Interim Budget and convening Second Part of Session in the new calendar year without the Presidential Address: On 3 February 2004, prior to the presentation of the Interim Budget (General) 2004-2005 by the Finance Minister, Shri Jaswant Singh, Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi, member, raised a point of order questioning the presentation of the Interim Budget instead of Vote-on-Account. He submitted that the term 'Interim' does not find mention in the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha and its usage in the Order Paper was in violation of the Constitution and the established conventions of the House.

Shri Somnath Chatterjee, member, also raised a point of order on the validity and the constitutionality of convening the Second Part of the Fourteenth Session. He submitted that the Fourteenth Session was concluded with the adjournment of the House *sine die* on 23 December 2003 and that with the re-commencement of the sittings of the House on 29 January 2004, a fresh Session which was the First Session of the year, had commenced. As per art. 87 of the Constitution, at the commencement of the First Session each year, the President had to

address the House. As the Session commenced on 29 January 2004 without the Presidential Address, it was in violation of the constitutional provisions and the Rules of Procedure.

The presentation of the Interim Budget and the constitutionality of the Session were also questioned by Shri Shivraj Patil and Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, both members. The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Smt. Sushma Swaraj, and the Minister of Law and Justice and the Minister of Commerce and Industry, Shri Arun Jaitely, rebutted their contentions. Thereafter, the Speaker, Shri Manohar Joshi, observed as under:

> "Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi, Shri Somnath Chatterjee, Shri Shivraj V. Patil, Shri Arun Jaitley, Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh and Smt. Sushma Swaraj have enlightened me on this very important issue.
>
> Let me at the outset make it clear that the Rulings of the Speaker are generally in accordance with the Rules, the Rule book and also the Constitution of India. At times, it so happens that the issue requires Ruling of the Chair and in such circumstances the precedents are seen. If the precedents are not available, then the Presiding Officer has to make up his own mind and give a Ruling on the issues which are raised. In this particular case, fortunately, there are Rules of Procedure as well as definitions to guide us. I have gone through Erskine May's *Parliamentary Practice*. I would like the House to listen carefully to the Ruling which I am now going to give.
>
> Firstly, let me refer to Erskine May who has given, fortunately, a definition of the term 'Prorogation'. He has said: 'A Prorogation terminates a Session; and adjournment is an interruption in the course of one and the same Session'.
>
> Therefore, the point which was raised here about the prorogation has been made clear by this definition.
>
> Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi, at the outset, when he started his argument on the issue, had said that this cannot be treated as an Interim Budget. Therefore, I had to go through the precedents to see whether this can be treated as an Interim Budget or not. I find that this was treated as an Interim Budget in the past also. For instance, I would like to bring it to the notice of the House that on 11 March 1996, the general discussion on the Interim Budget was listed in the List of Business. Not only this, there are also several instances when Vote-on-Account was called an Interim Budget. There-

fore, calling this a Vote-on-Account or calling this an Interim Budget does not really make much difference.

But that was not the main point which was raised today. The main point which was raised by Shri Somnath Chatterjee was about the very holding of this Session and this point was also raised in the House by Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan and some other members on 30 January 2004 and the Hon'ble Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Smt. Sushma Swaraj had responded to the points raised by the members on that day. Shri Somnath Chatterjee has contended that what commenced on 29 January 2004, was the First Session of the year. I would like to clarify that there is no mention of adjournment *sine die* of the House in the Constitution. As per the provision of the Constitution, a Session of the House comes to an end when the House is prorogued. As the House was not prorogued after its adjournment *sine die* on 23 December 2003, this Session can, at best, be treated as the Second Part of the Fourteenth Session of the Thirteenth Lok Sabha notwithstanding the fact the calendar year has since changed.

I am giving an illustration, I am giving a precedent regarding the Third Lok Sabha. On 11 December 1962, the House adjourned to meet on 21 January 1963.

This was treated as Part-II of the same Session... I may inform the House that in the past also there have been occasions when after the adjournment *sine die* of the House, the Lok Sabha was reconvened before prorogation.

... For example, the Eighth Session of the Eighth Lok Sabha was adjourned *sine die* on 12 May 1987, but the House was not prorogued... and was reconvened after a gap of 75 days on 27 July 1987, as the Second Part of the Session. Similarly, the Fourteenth Session of the Eighth Lok Sabha was adjourned *sine die* on 18 August 1989, but the House was not prorogued and was reconvened on 11 October 1989 after a gap of 53 days as the Second Part of the Fourteenth Session.

... There are several other similar instances also. I have already made a reference to the case when the House was adjourned and thereafter, though it was reconvened in the next year, it was not treated as a fresh Session. Therefore, I must make it clear that in this particular case also, this Session can be treated as the Second Part of the Winter Session.

... After listening to the arguments, I have treated this as the Second Part of the Winter Session. Since under the

provisions of the sub-clause (a) of clause (2) of art. 85 of the Constitution, the power to prorogue the House vests in the honourable President – please remember that this power is with the honourable President – I am not inclined to allow any more discussion on the issue and I hold both the points of order out of order".

Instance when requests from members to lay written text of their speeches on the Table were acceded to: On 4 February 2004, during the general discussion on the Interim Budget (General) for 2004-2005, the Speaker, Shri Manohar Joshi, permitted members to lay their written speeches on the Table of the House. Accordingly, four members laid their written speeches on the Table of the House.

Instance when PAC Report was not allowed to be presented on the last day of the 13th Lok Sabha as the item was not listed in the day's List of Business: On 5 February 2004, after the presentation of three Reports (61st, 62nd, 63rd) of the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) which were listed in the day's business of the House, the Chairman, Committee on Public Accounts, Sardar Buta Singh, sought the permission of the Chair to also lay on the Table of the House, the report of the Committee on "Short levy of Customs duty due to incorrect classification of goods–beddings, mattresses, etc.," which was not listed. The Chairman submitted that the above Report was adopted by the PAC at its sitting held on 30 January 2004 and he had duly authenticated it. The proposed laying of the unlisted report was objected to by some members. Thereupon, rising on points of order, Shri Rupchand Pal and Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal, members, submitted that since the Report was adopted by the PAC unanimously, it was the Chairman's duty to present the Report to the House. Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal also contended that the proceedings of the Committees were not discussed in the House. Further, Sarvashri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi, Somnath Chatterjee and Mani Shankar Aiyer, members, submitted that the Chairman should be allowed to present the Report, as it was the last sitting of the Thirteenth Lok Sabha. On the other hand, Shri Mohan Rawale and Shri Kirit Somaiya, members, submitted that the Report was not adopted unanimously at the PAC meeting held on 30 January 2004 and the item was not listed in the Order Paper of the day. They, therefore, contended that the Chairman should not be permitted to present the Report to the House. The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Smt. Sushma Swaraj, and the Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs, Shri Harin Pathak, also supported their contention. Thereafter, the Speaker, Shri Manohar Joshi, *inter alia* observed:

"A very serious matter has come before me for a decision. The matter pertains to the Public Accounts Committee Report to be presented to the House.

I have not allowed the Chairman to present it... because it is not listed and why it was not listed needs an investigation,...

... On the one side, there were views expressed by the Chairman and a few other members, and on the other, a few other members had expressed their views exactly opposite to what the honourable Chairman had to say in the matter.

...The House will agree with me that this matter has become serious. I would now reply to Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal's point of order that in a normal case, the members do not speak in the House, when any issue concerning a Committee is raised. But when a procedural issue comes before me, I have to permit the members and I have to understand what the members have to say. Therefore, three members of the Committee were allowed to speak.

... It is very unfortunate that the members of the Committee are saying one thing and the Chairman is saying something else. In future, I would advise the Chairman to see that the issues are settled, as far as possible, in the Committee itself. ... I have to go through the minutes. I have to see all the rules, and I have to see the previous precedents ...

I would be able to make up my mind about this only after going through all this. Since the facts are confusing, there is no alternative before me but to reserve my ruling for some time."

Thereafter, 'Zero Hour' and other business listed for the day were taken up. At about 18.11 hrs., the Speaker, Shri Manohar Joshi, ruled:

"Hon'ble members, as you are aware, the Report of the Public Accounts Committee headed by Sardar Buta Singh relating to 'Short levy of Customs duty due to incorrect classification of goods–beddings, mattresses, etc.,' was not listed in today's business of the House. Therefore, it could not be presented in the House.

I have since gone into the relevant records. I find that the minutes of the sitting of the Committee held on 30 January 2004, are yet to be circulated to the members. Thus, the minutes remain "Confidential". I would, therefore, not like to go into the proceedings of the Committee.

As you are all aware, there is divergence of views among the members of the Committee with regard to the adoption of the Report. The time available at my disposal being very short, it

will be neither fair nor feasible to resolve the issue right now. Since the subject matter is very important, I would suggest that this matter may be taken up for consideration again by the PAC of the next Lok Sabha and the valuable work done by the present PAC may be utilized by the succeeding Committee. Under the Rules, there is no bar on the subject matter of the Report in question being taken up by the PAC of the next Lok Sabha.

If you all agree, the matter should be allowed to rest here".

4

PARLIAMENTARY AND CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

(1 OCTOBER TO 31 DECEMBER 2003)

Events covered in this Feature are based primarily on reports appearing in the daily newspapers and, as such, the Lok Sabha Secretariat does not accept any responsibility for their accuracy, authenticity or veracity.

—Editor

INDIA

DEVELOPMENTS AT THE UNION

Merger of Samata Party and JD(U): On 30 October 2003, the Samata Party and the Janata Dal (United) (JD(U)) merged. The new Party would retain the name of JD(U) and its official election symbol. Shri George Fernandes was elected its President.

Change of party affiliation: On 11 November 2003, Bharatiya Janata Party's Lok Sabha member Shri P.K. Khunte joined the Indian National Congress.

Resignation of Minister of State: On 17 November 2003, the Union Minister of State for Environment and Forests, Shri Dilip Singh Judeo, resigned from the Council of Ministers.

Death of Minister: On 23 November 2003, the Union Minister without portfolio, Shri Murasoli Maran, died in Chennai after a prolonged illness.

Resignation of Lok Sabha members: On 18 December 2003, following her election to the Madhya Pradesh State Legislative Assembly, Sushri Uma Bharati resigned from the Lok Sabha. On 24 December 2003, Shri Madan Lal Khurana of the BJP resigned from the Lok Sabha.

DMK withdraws support to NDA Government: On 20 December 2003, the DMK withdrew support to the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) Government. On 21 December 2003, the two DMK Ministers—Union Minister for Environment and Forests Shri T.R. Baalu and Union

Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare Shri A. Raja—resigned from the Council of Ministers.

MDMK withdraws support to NDA: On 29 December 2003, the MDMK withdrew support to the NDA Government. On 30 December 2003, the two MDMK Ministers—Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources Shri M. Kannappan and Minister of State in the Ministry of Textiles Shri Gingee N. Ramachandran—resigned from the Union Council of Ministers.

AROUND THE STATES

BIHAR

Assembly by-election results: The Rashtriya Janata Dal retained both the Fatuha and Barachatti Assembly seats while the BJP won the Sitamarhi Assembly seat, by-elections for which were held on 20 November 2003. The newly elected members are Shri Om Prakash Paswan (Fatuha), Smt. Samata Devi (Barachatti) and Shri Sunil Kumar (Sitamarhi).

No-confidence Motion defeated: On 17 December 2003, the National Democratic Alliance (NDA)-sponsored No-confidence Motion against the Government led by the Chief Minister, Smt. Rabari Devi, was defeated by a voice vote in the State Legislative Assembly.

CHHATTISGARH

Assembly election results: Elections to the State Legislative Assembly were held on 1 December 2003. The following is the party position: Total seats:90; results declared:89; BJP:50; Congress:36; Others:3.

On 5 December 2003, Dr. Raman Singh was elected leader of the BJP Legislature Party. He was sworn in as the Chief Minister on 7 December 2003.

On 12 December 2003, Dr. Raman Singh expanded the Council of Ministers by inducting seventeen Ministers–nine with Cabinet rank, five Ministers of State with Independent Charge and three Ministers of State.

The Cabinet Ministers are: Dr. Raman Singh: *Chief Minister, General Administrative Department, Energy, Public Relations, Aviation, Mining;* Shri Brij Mohan Agarwal: *Home, Jail, Labour, Culture and Tourism;* Shri Amar Agarwal: *Finance, Planning and Statistics, Commercial Tax, 20-Points Implementation, Urban Development;* Shri Ajay Chandrakar:

Panchayat and Rural Development, Parliamentary Affairs; Shri Ram Vichar Netam: *Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Backward and Minority Development, Revenue and Rehabilitation;* Shri Nanki Ram Kanwar: *Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Fisheries, Cooperative, Law and Legal Affairs;* Shri Ganesh Ram Bhagat: *Forest, Housing and Environment;* Shri Medharam Sahu: *Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Protection;* Shri Hem Chand Yadav: *Water Resources, Sports and Youth Welfare;* and Shri Vikram Usendi: *Education.*

The Ministers of State (Independent Charge) are: Shri Rajesh Munat: *Public Works Department;* Dr. Krishna Murthy Bandhi: *Public Health and Family Welfare, Health Education;* Shri Rajinder Pal Singh Bhatia: *Commerce, Industries, Gramodyog and Transport;* Shri Kedar Kashyap: *Public Health Engineering;* and Smt. Renuka Singh: *Women and Child Welfare, Social Welfare.*

The Ministers of State are: Shri Poonam Chandrakar: *Attached to the Chief Minister;* Shri Mahesh Baghel: *Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Backward Classes Welfare;* and Shri Satyanand Rathiya: *Forest, Housing and Environment.*

DELHI

Assembly election results: Elections to the Delhi State Assembly were held on 1 December 2003. The following is the party position: Total seats:70; Congress:47; BJP:20; Others:3.

Cabinet sworn in: On 15 December 2003, Smt. Sheila Dixit was sworn in as the Chief Minister. Along with her, six Ministers were also sworn in.

The Council of Ministers with their portfolios is as follows: Smt. Sheila Dixit, *Chief Minister, Administrative Reforms, General Administrative Department, Home Department, Law and Justice and Legislative Affairs, Public Relations, Services Department, Water, Higher Education, Training and Technical Education and other Departments not allocated elsewhere;* Dr. Ashok Kumar Walia, *Finance, Planning, PWD and Urban Development;* Shri Raj Kumar Chauhan, *Development, Revenue, Irrigation and Flood Control, Food and Civil Supplies, Environment, Forest, SC/ST Welfare;* Shri Haroon Yusuf, *Transport, Power Department;* Shri Yoganand Shastri, *Health, Social Welfare;* Shri Mangat Ram Singhal, *Industry, Labour, Employment, Election, Land and Building Department;* and Shri Arvinder Singh Lovely, *Education (Excluding Higher Education and Technical Education), Tourism, Art, Culture and Language, Gurudwara Election and Gurudwara Administration.*

Resignation of BJP member: On 17 December 2003, Shri Madan Lal Khurana resigned from the State Legislative Assembly.

Election of Speaker: On 19 December 2003, Shri Ajay Maken of the Congress was elected as the Speaker of the State Legislative Assembly.

GUJARAT

Death of MLA: On 5 October 2003, Shri Usmangani Devdiwala, Congress MLA from Jamalpur Assembly constituency, died following a heart attack.

KARNATAKA

Change of party affiliation: On 2 October 2003, two MLCs and eight MLAs of the All India Progressive Janata Dal (AIPJD) joined the Janata Dal (Secular). They are Sarvashri M.P. Prakash, B.T. Channabasappa (both MLCs); and A.R. Krishnamurthy, H.S. Mahadev Prasad, Amaregowda Bayya, Bachche Gowda, A.B. Patil, S.C. Malagi, Karadi Sangunna and Chandranna (all MLAs).

KERALA

Assembly by-election result: The United Democratic Front (UDF) candidate, Smt. Elizabeth Mammen Mathai won the Thiruvalla Assembly seat, by-election for which was held on 20 November 2003.

MADHYA PRADESH

Assembly election results: Elections to the State Legislative Assembly were held on 1 December 2003. The following is the party position. Total seats:230; BJP:172; Congress:38; Others:20.

New Chief Minister sworn in: On 8 December 2003, Sushri Uma Bharati of the BJP was sworn in as the Chief Minister. Along with her, 12 Cabinet Ministers and 5 Ministers of State were also sworn in.

The new Cabinet Ministers are: Sarvashri Babulal Gaur, Gouri Shankar Shejwar, Kailash Chawla, Raghavji, Dhal Singh Bisen, Gopal Bhargav, Kailash Vijayavargya, Choudhury Chandrabhan Singh, Narendra Tomar, Harnam Singh, Ramakant Tiwari and Om Prakash Dhurve.

The new Ministers of State are: Sarvashri Anoop Mishra, Jagdish Mubel, Badrilal Yadav, Sushri Meena Singh and Smt. Alka Jain.

Election of Speaker: On 16 December 2003, Shri Ishwar Das Rohani was unanimously elected as the Speaker of the State Legislative Assembly.

MAHARASHTRA

Resignation of Deputy Chief Minister: On 23 December 2003, the Deputy Chief Minister, Shri Chhagan Bhujbal, resigned from office. On 25 December 2003, Shri Vijaysinh Mohite-Patil was sworn in his place.

MEGHALAYA

Change of party affiliation: On 15 December 2003, six Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) MLAs broke away from the parent party and formed the Meghalaya Nationalist Congress Party (MNCP). The six MLAs are Sarvashri Samuel M. Sangma, Nidhuram Hajang, Cyprian R. Sangma, E.D. Marak, Beckstar Sangma and B.H. Sangma. The group was recognised by the Speaker, Shri Martin M. Danggo. Later, four of them—Sarvashri Cyprian R. Sangma, E.D. Marak, Beckstar Sangma and B.H. Sangma—were inducted as Cabinet Ministers in the Lapang Government.

MIZORAM

Election results: The elections to the State Legislative Assembly were held on 20 November 2003. The following is the party position: Total seats:40; results declared:39; Mizo National Front:21; Congress:12; Mizoram People's Conference (MPC):2; Zoram National Party (ZNP):3; and Mara Democratic Front:1.

New Ministry formed: On 4 December 2003, an MNF Ministry headed by Shri Zoramthanga was sworn in. Along with him, 8 Cabinet Ministers and 6 Ministers of State were also sworn in.

The Cabinet Ministers are as follows: Shri Zoramthanga: *Chief Minister, Finance, Taxation Planning and Programme Implementation, General Administration, Political and Cabinet, Vigilance, Power and Electricity, Industries, Art and Culture and Public Works;* Shri Tawnluia: *Home and Public Health Engineering;* Shri R. Tlanghmingthanga: *Health and Family Welfare, Social Welfare and Secretariat Administration;* Shri Lalrinchhana: *Animal Husbandry, Veterinary, Transport and Relief and Rehabilitation;* Shri Aichhinga: *Rural Development and Trade and Commerce;* Dr. R. Lalthangliana: *School Education, Environment and Forest, Information and Public Relations;* Shri H. Vanlalauva: *Local Area Development and District Council Affairs;* Shri B. Lalthlengliana: *Land Revenue and Settlement, Fisheries;* and Shri H. Rammawia: *Agriculture, Horticulture, Law and Judiciary, Parliamentary Affairs.*

The Ministers of State are: Shri K. Vanlalauva: *Prison, and Printing and Stationery;* Shri K. Sangthuama: *Food and Civil Supplies and*

Sericulture; Shri C. Lalrinsanga: *Tourism, Co-operation;* Shri Z.H. Ropuia: *Sports and Youth Services, Labour and Employment;* Dr. Lalzama: *Higher and Technical Education, Art and Culture;* and Shri P.P. Thawla: *Excise and Soil and Water Conservation.*

PONDICHERRY

Death of Lt. Governor: On 27 October 2003, Lt. Governor, Shri K.R. Malkani died following a cardiac arrest. He was 82.

RAJASTHAN

Assembly election results: Elections to the State Legislative Assembly were held on 1 December 2003. The following is the party position: Total seats:200; BJP:120; Congress:56; Others:24.

New Ministry sworn in: On 8 December 2003, Smt. Vasundhara Raje was sworn in as the Chief Minister. Along with her, 8 Ministers of Cabinet rank and one Minister of State were sworn in. The Council of Ministers with their portfolios is as follows:

Smt. Vasundhara Raje: *Chief Minister, Department of Personnel, Administrative Reforms, General Administrative Department, Cabinet Secretariat, Estate Department, Civil Aviation, Rajasthan State Bureau of Investigation, Policy Planning, Home, Department of Public Grievances, Finance and Taxation, Medical and Health Agriculture, Law and Justice, Science and Technology, Women and Child Development, Family Planning Department, and Departments not allocated elsewhere;* Shri Gulab Chand Kataria: *Public Works Department;* Shri Ghanshyam Tiwari: *Primary and Secondary Education, Sanskrit Education, Minority Languages, Bhasha Vibhag, Parliamentary Affairs (Additional Charge);* Prof. Sanwar Lal: *Irrigation, Indira Gandhi Nahar Pariyojana;* Shri Madan Dilawar: *Social Welfare;* Dr. Kirodi Lal Meena: *Food and Civil Supplies;* Shri Narpat Singh Rajvi: *Industries;* Shri Kanak Mal Katara: *Tribal Area Development;* Shri Mohamad Yunus Khan: *Youth and Sports.*

Minister of State: Shri Prabhu Lal Saini: *Agriculture.*

New Governor: On 25 December 2003, Shri Madan Lal Khurana was appointed as the Governor of Rajasthan. He was sworn in on 13 January 2004.

UTTARANCHAL

No-trust Motion defeated: On 22 December 2003, a No-confidence Motion against the N.D. Tiwari Government moved by Shri Nizamuddin of the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) and supported by all Opposition

parties was defeated by a voice vote in the State Legislative Assembly.

UTTAR PRADESH

Expansion of Cabinet: On 3 October 2003, the Chief Minister Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav inducted 91 new Ministers, including 24 Ministers with Cabinet rank into his Council of Ministers.

Minister removed: On 8 October 2003, on the advice of the Chief Minister Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav, the Governor Shri Vishnu Kant Shastri removed the Minister for Land Development and Water Resources, Shri Brijendra Pratap Singh, from the Council of Ministers.

By-election results: The Samajwadi Party won both the Assembly seats, by-elections for which were held on 20 November 2003. Those elected are Shri Dilip Kumar Verma (Mahasi) and Smt. Vimla Rakesh (Harora).

DEVELOPMENTS ABROAD

AZERBAIJAN

New President: In the Presidential election held on 15 October 2003, Mr. Ilham Aliyev was declared elected. He was formally sworn in as the President on 31 October 2003.

New Prime Minister: On 4 November 2003, the Milli Majlis (the unicameral Legislature) appointed Mr. Artur Rasizade as the Prime Minister.

BOLIVIA

Resignation of President: On 17 October 2003, the President Mr. Gonzalo Sanchez de Lozada was forced to resign and flee Bolivia for exile in USA after almost a month of unrest and clashes between the security forces and demonstrators which had led to more than 80 deaths. The Vice-President Mr. Carlos Mesa was subsequently sworn in as the President.

CANADA

New Prime Minister: On 12 December 2003, Mr. Paul Martin was sworn in as the new Prime Minister.

CROATIA

Election results: In the elections held on 23 November 2003 to the 152-seat Chamber of Representatives (the lower chamber of the bicam-

eral Legislature, the *Sabor)* the Croatian Democratic Party (HDZ) won 66 seats. The position in respect of the other parties is as follows: Social Democratic Party of Croatia (SPH)-43; Croatian People's Party (HNS)-11; Croatian Peasant's Party (HSS)-9; Croatian Party of Rights (HSP)/ Zagorje Democratic Party (ZDS)-8; Croatian Social Liberal Party (HSLS)/ Democratic Centre (DC)-3; Croatian Pensioners Party (HSU)-3; Croatian Democratic Peasant Party (HDDS)-1; Non-Partisan Minority Representatives-2; and Representatives of Croatians Abroad-6.

New Prime Minister: On 23 December 2003, Mr. Ivo Sanader of the HDZ was sworn in as the Prime Minister.

GEORGIA

President removed: On 23 November 2003, the President Mr. Eduard Shevardnadze was forced to resign after weeks of mass demonstrations by the Opposition parties culminating in the storming of the Parliament. In accordance with the Constitution, Mr. Nino Burdjanadze who was the Speaker of the outgoing Parliament, assumed the Presidential powers, pending new Presidential and legislative elections scheduled to be held on 4 January 2004.

JAPAN

Election results: In the elections held on 9 November 2003 for the 480-seat House of Representatives (the lower House of the *Diet,* the bicameral Legislature), the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP)-led three party coalition won 275 seats. The position in respect of the various parties is as follows: LDP-237; New Komeito*-34; New Conservative Party (NCP)-4*; the Democratic Party of Japan-177; Japanese Communist Party-9; Social Democratic Party of Japan-6; Liberal League-1; Independents' Party-1; and Independents-11. (*Coalition partners)

JORDAN

New Prime Minister: On 22 October 2003, King Abdullah II accepted the resignation of the Government of Prime Minister Mr. Ali Abu al-Rageb formed in July 2003. The King later appointed Mr. Faysal Akif al-Fayiz as the Prime Minister.

MALDIVES

President re-elected: In a single-candidate referendum held on 17 October 2003, incumbent President Mr. Maumoon Abdul Gayoom was re-elected for another five-year term.

MAURITIUS

New President: On 1 October 2003, Mr. Karl Offman resigned as the President. Later, the Vice-President Mr. Raouf Bundhun was sworn in as the acting President.

On 7 October 2003, the National Assembly elected Sir Anirudh Jagannath as the President.

MAURITANIA

President re-elected: In the Presidential elections held on 7 November 2003, the incumbent President Mr. Maaouiya Ould Sid Ahmed Taya was re-elected for a further six-year term.

RUSSIA

Election results: Elections to the 450-seat State *Duma* (the lower House of the bicameral Legislature) were held on 7 December 2003. Under Russia's electoral system, half of the 450 seats were distributed on the basis of voting for National Party Lists that obtained over five per cent of the national vote; the remaining 225 were allocated on the basis of single-mandate constituencies. The party position after the election was as follows:

Party	Seats from Party List	Seats from single-mandate constituencies (provisional)
Unified Russia	120	103
Communist Party of the Russian Federation (KPRF)	40	12
Liberal Democratic Party of Russia (LDPR)	36	0
Rodina (Motherland) bloc	29	8
Yabloko	0	4
Union of Rightist Forces (SPS)	0	2
People's Party	0	17
Independent or unaffiliated	0	76
Total (Provisional)	225	222

SOMALIA

New Prime Minister: On 8 December 2003, the President of the Transitional National Government, Mr. Abdiqasim Salad Hassan, removed Mr. Abshir Farah Hasan as the Prime Minister and appointed Mr. Abdi Yusuf Mohammed in his place.

SWAZILAND

New Prime Minister: On 17 November 2003, King Mswati III appointed Mr. Absalom Themba Dlamini as the Prime Minister.

SWITZERLAND

Election results: In the elections held on 19 October 2003 for the 200-seat *Nationalrat* (the lower House of the bicameral Legislature) the ruling four party coalition won 171 seats. The party position was as follows: *Swiss Peoples Party (SVP/UDC):55; *Social Democratic Party (SPS/PSS):52; *Radical Democratic Party (FDP/PRD):36; *Christian Democratic People's Party (CVP/PDC): 28; Green Party of Switzerland (GPS/PES):13; Liberal Party of Switzerland (LPS/PLS):4; Protestant People's Party (EVP/PEV):3; and others:9. (*Coalition partners).

SESSIONAL REVIEW

THIRTEENTH LOK SABHA

FOURTEENTH SESSION

The Fourteenth Session of the Thirteenth Lok Sabha commenced on 2 December 2003 and was adjourned *sine die* on 23 December 2003. However, the House was not prorogued. In exercise of the powers conferred on him by rule 15(1), the Speaker called the House to meet again on 29 January 2004 till 5 February 2004. The second part of the Fourteenth Session was adjourned *sine die* on 5 February 2004. In all, there were 21 sittings: 16 and 5 sittings in the first and second part respectively. The Thirteenth Lok Sabha was dissolved on 6 February 2004.

A resume of some of the important discussions held and other business transacted during the period 2 to 23 December 2003* is given below:

A. DISCUSSIONS / STATEMENTS

Discussion under Rule 193 regarding recent incidents of violence in Assam and some other parts of the country due to Recruitment Policy of the Railways: The discussion in this regard took place on 5 and 15 December 2003. Initiating the discussion on 5 December 2003, Shri Basudeb Acharia of the Communist Party of India (Marxist) condemned the incidents of violence in Assam and Bihar. He said that there had been a worsening of the law and order situation in Assam and more than 60 people from Bihar and Hindi-speaking people were killed. About ten thousand of them were now staying in relief camps. All these incidents were a sequel to an advertisement by the Railways that they would recruit 20,000 gangmen and *khalasis* and other safety staff. This recruitment to Group 'D' category was to be done through the Railway Recruitment Board for which candidates from Bihar, Uttar Pradesh,

* The Sessional Review for the second part of the Fourteenth Session will be carried in the June 2004 issue of the *Journal* (Vol.L, No.2)

West Bengal and Tripura had applied. On 9 November 2003, when the candidates from Bihar and Tripura went to Guwahati, at Malegaon, they were prevented from appearing in the interview. The news spread in Bihar and in the next two days, trains coming from Assam were stopped at various stations in Bihar. A number of passengers, particularly from Assam, and from some other North-east States were taken out of the compartments and beaten up. On 17 November, the All Assam Students Union (AASU), the Assam Jatiyatavadi Yuva Chhatra Union and the United Liberation Front of Assam called a bandh and started attacking people from Bihar. They were beaten up and assaulted and some were killed.

Shri Acharia said that all these were happening because of the growing unemployment which was there in spite of the solemn assurance given by the Prime Minister that one crore jobs would be given to unemployed youth each year. The number of registered unemployed youth in Assam was more than 17 lakh and in Bihar it was 20 lakh. As a result of this, there was a demand that employment should be given to the sons of the soil. The AASU and the Assam Jatiyatavadi Yuva Chhatra Union were demanding that cent per cent posts should be reserved for the local youth. In the past, recruitment to the posts of Group 'D' was done by the DRM and through local employment exchanges. He suggested that the earlier system should be restored and that the names of candidates should be sponsored by the local employment exchange. Irrespective of party or State allegiances, all should think for the people of the country and see how the menace of provincial chauvinism could be ended, he added.

Participating in the discussion*, Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav of the Janata Dal (United) (Democratic) said that the responsibility to check these incidents of violence rest with the Central and State Governments and urged the Government to rehabilitate the displaced people and to pay an amount of at least Rs.10 lakh to the families of the deceased. He added that the forces spreading regionalism should be discouraged.

On 15 December 2003, Shri Ram Vilas Paswan (Lok Jan Shakti Party) said that the basic problem of the country was unemployment and felt that it should be addressed with all seriousness. He pointed out

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* Others who participated in the discussion were: Sarvashri Kirti Jha Azad, Paban Singh Ghatowar, Rajesh Ranjan *alias* Pappu Yadav, Mohan Rawale, Ramji Lal Suman, Prabhunath Singh, Bal Krishna Chauhan, Rajen Gohain, Madhab Rajbangshi, Nikhil Kumar Choudhary, Prabodh Panda, Arun Kumar, Bhartruhari Mahtab, Subodh Roy, Suresh Ramrao Jadhav, Bijoy Handique, Kunwar Akhilesh Singh, Dr. M.V.V.S. Murthi, Smt. Margaret Alva and Smt. Renu Kumari

that nothing could be more shameful if regionalism was encouraged and riots took place due to unemployment or poverty.

Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh (RJD) said that the Central Government was incapable of preserving the unity of the country. He wanted to know whether any schemes had been envisaged for the rehabilitation of the victims and what precautions were being taken to avoid the recurrence of such incidents in future.

Shri Chandrakant Khaire (Shiv Sena) condemned the incidents in Assam and suggested that the Railway Recruitment Board should call the candidates through employment exchanges and that examinations should be held on the same day throughout the country.

Intervening in the discussion, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs, Shri Chinmayanand Swami, thanked the Governors of Assam and Bihar for their peace initiatives. He informed the members that the Union Government had asked the Assam Government to give information on the extent of losses. The information had not yet been received. He stated that he had visited Assam on 22 November along with the Minister in-charge of Development of North-Eastern Region, Shri C.P. Thakur. The Minister said it would be a serious mistake to term the violence as ethnic violence. At present, the violence in Assam had completely been brought under control.

Replying to the discussion, the Minister of Railways, Shri Nitish Kumar, said that there was a misconception on the Railway recruitment policy. Clarifying the recruitment procedure in the Railways, the Minister stated that there were four types of posts namely Group 'A', 'B', 'C' and 'D'. Group 'A' posts were filled up through the UPSC, Group 'B' posts through promotion and Group 'C' posts through the Railway Recruitment Board. The Ministry had now handed over the Group 'D' posts to the Railway Recruitment Board which were earlier being filled up through casual labour or on temporary basis and there was no transparency in the procedure. After the May 1998 guidelines by the Department of Personnel and Training (DOPT) the Railways issued fresh instructions. Now any Department or undertaking which wanted to recruit persons had to give widespread publicity compulsorily. Since Group D posts were filled up by the Railways Division-wise, it had been decided that the question papers for the Railway Division for which the recruitment was to be made, would now be prepared in the local language included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution.

The Minister assured the House that if there were any flaws in the present policy, the Government was ready to rectify it. He added that

there was no problem in the country that could not be resolved, but violence was not a solution to any problem.

After the Minister replied to the discussion, the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Manohar Joshi, placed the following Resolution before the House:

> "This House expresses its deep sense of anguish over the recent incidents of violence in Bihar, Assam, Maharashtra and some other parts of the country in the wake of Railway recruitment examinations in which many innocent lives have been lost and properties destroyed. Such incidents of parochialism should be countered unitedly and with determination.
>
> This House unanimously appeals to all to promote harmony and the spirit of common brotherhood amongst all the people of India transcending religious, linguistic, regional or sectional diversities. All issues that have a potential for promoting divisive tendencies and regional discord can and should be resolved through discussion, dialogue and other democratic means, and not through violent means.
>
> Let us resolve to protect the regional harmony, unity and integrity of the country and rededicate ourselves to this cause."

The Resolution was adopted unanimously.

Statement by the Minister of Finance regarding the progress on the action taken pursuant to the recommendations of the Joint Parliamentary Committee on Stock Market Scam: Making a Statement in this regard on 12 December 2003, the Minister of Finance, Shri Jaswant Singh, said that the Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) had submitted its report on 12 December 2002. The Action Taken Report (ATR) was presented on 9 May 2003, within a period of six months. As desired by the JPC, the Government would continue to submit periodic reports of action taken, at six-monthly intervals until the full satisfaction of the Parliament was achieved.

The Minister stated that the Government had greatly benefited from the JPC's deliberations and expressed gratitude to the Committee for its wide-ranging and valuable suggestions. While certain legislative measures such as the amendment of the SEBI Act and the repeal of the UTI Act had already come into effect, other proposals like the amendment to the Securities Contract (Regulations) Act for ensuring demutualisation and corporatisation of stock exchanges and amendment of the Banking Regulations Act for better regulations of Cooperative Banks were before the Parliament. The Government was also considering other legislations

like the Companies Law (Amendment) Bill and the Government Securities Bill, 2003.

The Minister informed that a number of measures had been taken between the presentation of the last Action Taken Report and the present one. They included setting up of additional institutional mechanisms to keep a regular watch on the financial markets, establishment of a coordination mechanism with regulators and investigating agencies, reference to the SEBI regarding the secondary market investment decisions of the UTI in 89 companies identified by the Tarapore Committee, setting up of a Serious Frauds Investigation Office, etc. While some recommendations were pending for want of legislative mandates, others would be implemented only after the current investigations or judicial proceedings in courts of law were completed. The Minister stated that the Government was monitoring developments on a continuous basis and there had been good progress in the ongoing investigations. He added that the Government would endeavour to see that wherever any action was pending, it would be completed most expeditiously.

Statement by the Minister of External Affairs regarding launching of Military Action against Indian insurgent groups by the Royal Government of Bhutan: Making a Statement in the House on 15 December 2003, the Minister of External Affairs, Shri Yashwant Sinha, stated that the Government of India had been informed by the Royal Government of Bhutan that they had launched military action against Indian insurgent groups operating from camps in that country. The Minister expressed India's strong support to this action of the Royal Government of Bhutan. He informed that the King of Bhutan had telephonically informed the Prime Minister of the impending action on 13 December 2003. The Prime Minister in return had conveyed to the King that the Government and the people of India stood firmly and solidly behind the Royal Government of Bhutan at that critical juncture and would provide all necessary support as requested, till the task was completed.

The Minister stated that the Indian Army was also taking necessary measures to intercept movement of militants from Bhutan to India. The Government of India had advised the State Governments of Assam and West Bengal to remain alert to deal with the situation arising out of this action, including sealing the borders and maintaining peace. The Royal Government of Bhutan had always assured the Government of India that it would not allow its territory to be used for activities inimical to India's interest. The operations launched against Indian insurgent groups

in Bhutan had struck a blow against terrorism and terrorist activities in the entire region.

The Minister stated that the action against Indian insurgent groups in Bhutan would prevent further loss of innocent lives by the mindless acts of violence perpetrated by the terrorists. It would promote peace, stability and security in the region and further cement the strong friendship and cooperation between India and Bhutan, he added.

Statement by the Minister of Law and Justice and the Minister of Commerce and Industry regarding the Fifth Ministerial Conference of World Trade Organisation (WTO) held at Cancun, Mexico, from 10 to 14 September 2003: Making a Statement in this regard on 19 December 2003, the Minister of Law and Justice and the Minister of Commerce and Industry, Shri Arun Jaitley, said that the Cancun Ministerial Conference was held to take stock of the progress in negotiations under the Work Programme launched by the Doha Declaration and to provide guidance to negotiators on key areas such as agriculture, tariff negotiations for non-agricultural production, special and differential treatment and implementation issues. The Conference was also to decide on whether or not to launch negotiations on Singapore Issues based on modalities agreed to by 'explicit consensus'.

The Minister stated that in preparation for the Conference the Government of India held wide-ranging consultations with all the major stake holders and had accordingly formulated its negotiating strategy. The strategy was based on an appreciation of our trade interests, development concerns and gains to be made by improving the multilateral trading system. The Minister stated that they went to Cancun with a positive frame of mind, with a desire to engage proactively in the negotiations for a fruitful outcome. He stated that the Cancun Conference could not reach a decision covering all areas. An important reason for the lack of decision at Cancun was the inability to forge a consensus on various contentious issues by taking into account the concerns of all the members. The Minister stated that the developments at Cancun had been a disappointment for India. India was interested in having a healthy, effective multilateral trading system which would provide the institutional backdrop for a process of economic development that would benefit all countries. The overriding priority and consideration for a developing country like India in any trading arrangement was the implication of such an arrangement for its economic development. The focus on development determined India's position on any trade rules and proposals at the WTO.

In agriculture, India's desire was to ensure that agriculture markets

across the world were freed from the substantial distortions that were caused by large scale subsidization. These distortions prevented agriculture from fulfilling its potential of being an engine of growth. Income inequalities caused so far by such distortions had continued. It was essential in the interests of equity, justice and fair play that these distortions in agriculture were gradually eliminated. Therefore, agriculture market access in developing countries had to be sequenced appropriately with reductions in market distortions elsewhere. At the same time, India wished to protect the interest of the millions of subsistence level farmers who depended on agriculture as their sole means of sustenance. Therefore, there had to be a calibrated approach to market access *vis-à-vis* reduction of distortions in agriculture with a transition period in which affected farmers were shielded through the use of special safeguard mechanisms and the protection for special products. In view of all this, expecting India to make onerous market access commitments inconsistent with the reality in agriculture was unreasonable. The draft modalities on agriculture proposed at Cancun, on the other hand, did not take into account these concerns fully and would in all probability, have perpetuated distortions. India, therefore, had no choice but to oppose these modalities.

On tariff negotiations in non-agricultural production, the Minister stated that significant convergence in negotiating positions could be realized by taking on board the concerns of all members.

On the Singapore Issues, one had to address the question of multilateral rule-making taking primacy over economic development goals, particularly in areas where the interplay between these new issues and development was unknown. The Ministerial Conference had to take a decision on the modalities for all the Singapore Issues. However, this was to be done by explicit consensus. Discussions clearly revealed that not only was this consensus absent but that most of the developing countries felt that the clarification process on these issues had not run its full course. In the absence of clarity on many elements, a majority of the membership of the WTO had rejected the launch of negotiations on these issues and sought a continuation of the clarification process.

There were concerns that a Framework on Investment would constrain the policy space for developing countries in utilizing FDI for their development goals. There was no certainty that such a framework would lead to larger FDI flows. On Competition Policy, the issue of encroaching upon the freedom of competing authorities was indeed disquieting. The benefit of a framework on transparency in Government

procurement was also not clear. In spite of all these proposals tabled suggested the launch of negotiations in some areas. In the absence of explicit consensus, launching of total negotiations was, however, an impossibility.

India was also disappointed that no time-frame was prescribed for resolving outstanding Implementation Issues. These issues highlighted the imbalances arising out of the Uruguay Round Agreement which needed to be addressed on a priority basis so that imbalances brought in by the Uruguay Round were redressed. On Special and Differential Treatment Issues, India felt that adequate urgency was not being shown in addressing them.

The Minister stated that an important outcome from India's viewpoint was the engagement of developing countries in the negotiating process. Unlike in the past, when they were blamed for non-participation, the degree of participation of a large group of developing countries was a welcome development. Not only had developing countries become participants in the process but had also shown adequate flexibility to reach out to other countries to form alliances which had been formed during and after the Conference. The G-20 on Agriculture and G-16 on Singapore Issues embodied the desire of developing countries to generate common positions on these issues.

The Minister informed that the Ministerial Conference concluded with a Ministerial Statement which recognized that more work needed to be done in some key areas to enable WTO member countries to proceed towards the conclusion of negotiations under the Doha mandate. The Ministerial Statement had instructed officials to continue working on outstanding issues with a renewed sense of urgency and purpose, taking into account all the views expressed in the Conference. The Chairman of the General Council of the WTO, working in close coordination with the Director General, had been asked to coordinate the work and to convene a meeting of the General Council at senior officials' level not later than 15 December 2003 to enable successful and timely conclusion of the negotiations. Subsequently, the General Council had met at Geneva on 15 December 2003 and decided that negotiating groups would start working on their respective areas in January 2005.

The Minister stated that trade negotiations were a protracted process and the Government had been engaging constructively in the negotiations and was optimistic that despite the lack of progress at the Cancun Ministerial Conference, it would be possible to move forward in the weeks to come. Agriculture had been at the core of the negotiations. The Government was committed to ensuring that development lies at

the core of the Doha agenda, as mandated by the Doha Ministerial Conference of the WTO.

The Minister said that the multilateral process was an extremely important one for India. India believed that a rule based trading system provided a fair, transparent, predictable, secure and durable environment for trade relations between nations. India had been demanding that the system be fair—fair to its development goals, economic needs, economic and social reality and to its aspirations. The multilateral system continued to enjoy India's support and we would be participating in the process of further negotiations in Geneva. India's desire was that the discussions be carried forward in a more understanding and sensitive manner so that trade liberalization actually deliver the fruits of development.

Discussion under rule 193 regarding Action Taken Report on the Report of Joint Parliamentary Committee on Stock Market Scam and Matters relating thereto: Initiating the discussion in this respect on 22 December 2003, Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar of the Indian National Congress said he wanted to know from the Prime Minister whether the Finance Minister was ready to take the moral responsibility for the failure of the Finance Ministry, the RBI and the whole set up.

Replying to the discussion* on 23 December 2003, the Minister of Finance, Shri Jaswant Singh, said that the Government was fully committed to implementing the recommendations of the JPC so as to ensure market integrity and the interests of the investor. As far as the present JPC was concerned, he stated that the Action Taken Report had been presented in both the Houses of Parliament on 9 May 2003, within the six-month time frame and that he had submitted a further progress report on 12 December 2003. The Minister stated that a great deal of action had been taken. Prosecution proceedings in 18 cases had been launched by the SEBI which also had debarred 18 persons from associating with the capital market. The Minister assured that no guilty person would be spared and reaffirmed his commitment that the Government would continue to improve the system.

Discussion under rule 193 regarding unemployment situation in the country: Initiating the discussion on 23 December 2003, Shri Basudeb Acharia of the Communist Party of India (Marxist) said that the Prime

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* Those who participated in the discussion were: Sarvashri Kirit Somaiya, Rupchand Pal, Prakash Mani Tripathi, P.H. Pandian, Arun Kumar, Sriprakash Jaiswal, Kharabela Swain and Kunwar Akhilesh Singh

Minister had made an announcement on 15 August 2000 that one crore jobs would be created every year. Since the Government had been in power for over four years, he wanted to know how many jobs had been created during this period. He mentioned that the Tenth Five Year Plan document had categorically stated that after the economic reforms which were started from 1991, the growth in employment had been decreasing every year and today it was only 0.89 per cent.

Shri Acharia said that the concept of Public Sector Undertakings was adopted after Independence to have a self-reliant economy and to give employment to the people. A number of PSUs were being closed down without attempting to revive them. In the live registers of the Employment Exchanges of the country today, about four crore unemployed youth had registered their names. The share of the agricultural sector in employment was 73.9 per cent in 1972-73 and now it was 59.2 per cent. This was happening because of the policy of the present Government. There had been less capital investment in agriculture, irrigation, watershed management and in wasteland development. What was needed today was land reforms, to give land to the agricultural labourers. This would increase the purchasing power of the agricultural labourers and the unemployment problem which was very acute in the rural areas would be solved to some extent.

Participating in the discussion*, Dr.(Smt.) V. Saroja (AIADMK) urged the Prime Minister to convene an exclusive meeting to discuss the unemployment problem so that all the Departments and Ministries would contribute in finding a solution to this problem. After globalization and liberalization, there had been a decline in the employment opportunities. In this scenario, she wanted to know how the Government of India was going to address the issue.

Shri Prakash Yashwant Ambedkar (Bharipa Bahujan Mahasangh) said that the country was now being converted into a market economy. In this situation, if industries were being closed down one after another, there were no chances of eradicating unemployment in the country.

Shri G.M. Banatwalla (Muslim League Kerala State Committee) said that crores of people had been bereft of employment and other jobs

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* Others who participated in the discussion were: Sarvashri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi, Arun Kumar, Ramji Lal Suman, Kharabela Swain, Mani Shankar Aiyar, A. Krishnaswamy, Bal Krishna Chauhan, Namdeo Harbaji Diwathe, K.P. Singh Deo, Alakesh Das, Lakshman Singh, G.N. Singh, Rajesh Ranjan *alias* Pappu Yadav, Yogi Aditya Nath, Dr. Nitish Sengupta, Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat, Smt. Renu Kumari and Smt. Kanti Singh

during the last four years and stressed the urgent need to provide reservations to the minorities.

Shri Chandrakant Khaire (Shiv Sena) said that the condition of the country had become miserable due to unemployment and suggested that family planning would help in addressing the problem.

Shri Haribhau Shankar Mahale (JD-Secular) said that there were about 25 crore unemployed persons in the country and all should consider it as a national issue.

Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav [JD (United) Democratic] said that job oriented education should be provided to the youth of the country.

Replying to the discussion, the Minister of Labour, Dr. Sahib Singh Verma conceded that the Government could not generate employment in the organized sector during the last few years; however, employment opportunities were increasing in the unorganized sector continuously. The Minister stated that various committees had been set up to provide employment opportunities. The second Labour Commission was set up to provide social security to the labourers of the unorganized sector. Crores of people had got jobs in the housing sector. Employment generation in tourism was about five million. There were many areas in which the job opportunities would be more than ten million, he added.

B. LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

Statutory resolution regarding disapproval of the Representation of the People (Amendment) Ordinance, 2003 and *the Representation of the People (Second Amendment) Bill, 2003*:* Moving the statutory resolution, Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi of the Indian National Congress said that he gave the notice of disapproval not because he felt that the Bill was not required but because issuing ordinance had become a practice of the Government. The Government was aware of the fact that Delhi elections would be held at such and such time but did not think it proper during the last days of the last Session to bring the legislation and get it passed. The Government had now given an explanation stating that since there would be elections in Delhi, they had no other option but to bring the ordinance.

Moving the motion for consideration of the Bill, the Minister of Law and Justice and Minister of Commerce and Industry, Shri Arun Jaitley said that the Bill sought to further amend the Representation of the

* The Bill was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 8 December 2003

People Act, 1950 and the Representation of the People Act, 1951. In 1966, Section 13AA was inserted in the Representation of the People Act, 1950 which provided for designation or nomination of an officer as the District Election Officer for each district in a State, other than a Union territory. At that time, there was no concept of districts in the Union territories and, therefore, the provision of the District Election Officer was not made applicable to the Union territories.

The Election Commission had stated that the Union territories were now divided into districts for administrative efficiency and had, therefore, recommended amendment of Section 13AA to provide for designation or nomination of District Election Officers in the Union territories including the National Capital Territory of Delhi, which would facilitate better management of elections. Accordingly, the Representation of the People (Amendment) Ordinance, 2003 was promulgated on 29 October 2003. The Bill sought to replace the Ordinance.

Participating in the discussion*, Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh (RJD) said that some States had not been able to issue identity cards to the citizens. One should not be deprived of the fundamental right of exercising the franchise even if one had not been issued identity card. He suggested that a comprehensive electoral reforms Bill should be brought forward.

Shri Prakash Y. Ambedkar (Bharipa Bahujan Mahasangh) wanted the Government to amend the Representation of the People Act to include the Zila Parishads and the local bodies so as to make them functional or to bring about a legislation at the national level by which the State Election Commissions could be strengthened to ensure free and fair elections.

Replying to the discussion, the Minister of Law and Justice and Minister of Commerce and Industry, Shri Arun Jaitley, said that it was only when there was some grave emergency and the legislation on account of that urgency could not wait till the next Session of the House that the Government had to resort to the route of issuing an ordinance.

The Statutory Resolution was negatived and the Bill was passed.

Statutory Resolution regarding disapproval of the Delimitation (Amendment) Ordinance, 2003 and *the Delimitation (Amendment) Bill, 2003***:

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* Others who participated in the discussion were: Sarvashri Pawan Kumar Bansal, Thawar Chand Gehlot, Varkala Radhakrishnan, Adhi Shankar, Suresh Ramrao Jadhav, Dr. K. Malaisamy and Dr. Manda Jagannath

** The Bill was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 8 December 2003

Moving the Resolution for disapproval of the Delimitation (Amendment) Ordinance, 2003 in the House on 9 December 2003, Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi of the Indian National Congress said that taking the ordinance route by the Government in this specific case was not justified.

Moving the motion for consideration of the Bill, the Minister of Law and Justice and Minister of Commerce and Industry, Shri Arun Jaitley, stated that the Delimitation Act, 2002 was enacted to constitute the Delimitation Commission for giving effect to the Constitution (Eighty-fourth Amendment) Act, 2001. The Act, as originally enacted, provided for delimitation of electoral constituencies on the basis of the 1991 census. In the Budget Session, 2003 of Parliament, the Constitution (Eighty-seventh Amendment) Act, 2003 was enacted to provide for readjustment of electoral constituencies, including those reserved for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, based on the population census for the year 2001, without affecting the number of seats allocated to the States in the Legislative Bodies. To give effect to the Constitution (Eighty-seventh Amendment) Act, 2003, consequential amendments in the Delimitation Act, 2002 were required to be made. The Delimitation Commission had pointed out that the Constitution did not envisage the office of State Election Commission in the case of the States of the Meghalaya, Mizoram and Nagaland. It had, therefore, suggested that in the case of these three States, provision of appointment of nominee of the Governor instead of the State Election Commissioner may be provided by amending the Delimitation Act, 2002.

In view of these considerations and to facilitate continuation of the delimitation exercise on the basis of the 2001 census as soon as the final figures of the 2001 census were published, the Delimitation (Amendment) Ordinance, 2003 was promulgated by the President on 31 October 2003, to provide for delimitation of Assembly and Parliamentary constituencies on the basis of 2001 census and inclusion of the nominees of the Governor of the States of Meghalaya, Mizoram and Nagaland in the composition of the Delimitation Commission. The Bill sought to replace the Ordinance.

Participating in the discussion*, Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh of the RJD demanded that the Government should clarify the basis on which the Lok Sabha elections for 2004 would be conducted.

Shri Ram Vilas Paswan (Lok Jan Shakti Party) expressed support

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* Others who participated in the discussion were: Sarvashri K.A. Sangtam, Maheshwar Singh, Varkala Radhakrishnan, Ramdas Athawale, Suresh Ramrao Jadhav, Kunwar Akhilesh Singh and Dr. K. Malaisamy

to the Bill and said that he was in favour of delimitation on the basis of the 2001 census.

Replying to the discussion, the Minister of Law and Justice and Minister of Commerce and Industry, Shri Arun Jaitley, said that the amendment sought to fill up the vacuum which existed in the three North-eastern States where there was no State Election Commission. He stated that the Government would endeavour to complete the delimitation exercise as quickly as possible and implement it. He assured the members that the sentiments of the people would be taken into consideration while determining the constituencies.

The Statutory Resolution was negatived and the Bill was passed.

Statutory Resolution regarding Disapproval of the Prevention of Terrorism (Amendment) Ordinance, 2003 and *the Prevention of Terrorism (Amendment) Bill, 2003**: Moving the Statutory Resolution on 16 December 2003, Shri Basudeb Acharia of the Communist Party of India (Marxist) wanted to know as to what was the impact of the existing law and whether there had been any reduction in the terrorist activities. He said that the apprehension of the entire Opposition at the time of passing of the Act was that there was enough scope for its misuse. If the Government's intention was to stop the misuse of the Act, the Government should have sought to amend Section 21. Without doing that, the Government was bringing forward an amendment to give powers to the Review Committee. He wanted to know whether there had been any impact on the misuse of POTA by various State Governments after the constitution of the Review Committee. Shri Acharia stated that the country had enough laws and if these laws were utilized and there was a political will, terrorist activities could be curbed. Expressing the view that the misuse of POTA could not be stopped by amending the Act, he suggested that the Government should bring forward a legislation to repeal the POTA.

Moving the motion for consideration of the Bill, the Deputy Prime Minister and in-charge of the Ministry of Home affairs and Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Shri L.K. Advani, said that emphasis was being laid at the moment on the point that there should be no abuse of POTA. The concept of a Review Committee was not made later on but was a part of the Prevention of Terrorism Act, 2002. Sub-section (1) of Section 60 of the Act provided that the Central Government and each State Government should, whenever necessary,

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* The Bill was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 8 December 2003

constitute one or more Review Committees for the purposes of the Act. Sections 19, 40 and 46 assigned the specific functions to the Review Committee. At present, the recommendations or directions of the Review Committee, except those explicitly provided in the Act, were not binding on the Central Government and the State Governments and were only advisory in nature.

In order to have an effective safeguard against the likely misuse of the powers conferred by the Act, it was considered necessary that the mechanism of the Review Committee needed to be strengthened. In view of these, section 60 of the Act was amended by the Prevention of Terrorism (Amendment) Ordinance, 2003 and was promulgated on 27 October 2003 by which new sub-sections (4), (5) and (6) in Section 60 of the Act were inserted. The new sub-sections empowered the Review Committee to review, on an application by any aggrieved person, whether there was a *prima facie* case for proceeding against the accused and issue directions accordingly. The directions of the Review Committee shall be binding on the Central Government, the State Government and the police officer investigating the offence. Where the directions relating to the same offence under the Act had been made by a Review Committee constituted by the Central Government and the Review Committee constituted by the State Government, the directions of the Central Review Committee shall prevail over those of the State Review Committee. The Bill sought to replace the ordinance.

Participating in the discussion*, Shri Rashid Alvi of the Bahujan Samaj Party said that about 800 persons had been arrested under POTA as per the Government's figures. Questioning whether all these persons were terrorists, he pointed out that only two per cent of persons arrested under the earlier TADA in the past had been convicted, while 98 per cent were acquitted. Opposing the Bill, he requested the Government to withdraw it.

The Minister of Environment and Forests, Shri T.R. Baalu said that the repeal of POTA was sought with due concern to see that anything that would be draconian could be nipped in the bud itself.

Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh (RJD) said that when the discussion on POTA was held in March 2002, a united Opposition had warned the Government that it was a draconian law which would be misused on a

* Others who participated in the discussion were: Sarvashri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi, Prakash Mani Tripathi, Varkala Radhakrishnan, Ramji Lal Suman, Mohan Rawale, Prabhunath Singh, Bhartruhari Mahtab, Abdul Rashid Shaheen, Rajesh Ranjan *alias* Pappu Yadav, Dr. M.V.V.S. Murthi, Dr. Bikram Sarkar and Dr. C. Krishnan

large scale. But the Government was adamant to implement it and now the apprehensions had come true. He felt the cosmetic changes in the law would not help and wanted that POTA should be repealed and withdrawn.

Shri Ajay Chakraborty (CPI) stated that so many State Governments were misusing the law and challenged the Government to cite a single instance where terrorist activities had been checked.

Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav [JD(U) Democratic] wanted that no one should be allowed to abuse POTA further while terrorists should be given severe punishment.

Shri Ram Vilas Paswan (Lok Jan Shakti Party) said he failed to understand how the findings of the Review Committee would be binding. He was of the view that the more the Government enacted such laws, the more terrorism had grown. He also wanted that POTA should be withdrawn.

Shri Prakash Yashwant Ambedkar (Bharipa Bahujan Mahasangh) stated that POTA was being misused by the police for extortion.

Shri G.M. Banatwalla (Muslim League Kerala State Committee) said that the amendment Bill was an admission of the fact that there had been large scale abuse of the Act. He said that the POTA was a lawless law and whether it was POTA or its amendment, all these should be scrapped.

Replying to the discussion, the Deputy Prime Minister Shri L.K. Advani said that it would be proper to make the advice of the Review Committee binding. When the Review Committee arrived at a conclusion, it would be binding on the Executive. But if a court decided that there was a *prima facie* case, the Judiciary was supreme and nothing could be done about it.

The Statutory Resolution was negatived and the Bill, as amended, was passed.

*The Constitution (Ninety-seventh Amendment) Bill, 2003**: Moving the motion for consideration of the Bill on 16 December 2003, the Minister of Law and Justice and Minister of Commerce and Industry, Shri Arun Jaitley, said that the Tenth Schedule was added to the Constitution by way of the Anti-Defection Law in 1985. Even though the Bill was passed with the best of intentions, there were several views

* The Bill was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 5 May 2003

which members and political parties had expressed. The Tenth Schedule had been criticized on the ground that it allowed bulk defections even while declaring individual defections as illegal. The provisions for exemption from disqualification in case of splits as provided in paragraph 3 of the Tenth Schedule to the Constitution of India, had, in particular, come under severe criticism on account of its destabilizing effect on the Government.

The Committee on Electoral Reforms (Dinesh Goswami Committee) in its report of May 1990, the Law Commission of India in its 170th Report on "Reform of Electoral Laws" (1999) and the National Commission to Review the Working of the Constitution (NCRWC) in its report of 31 March 2002 had, *inter alia*, recommended omission of paragraph 3 of the Tenth Schedule. The NCRWC was also of the view that a defector should be penalized for his action by debarring him from holding any public office as a Minister or any other remunerative political post for at least the duration of the remaining term of the existing Legislature or until the next fresh elections, whichever was earlier. It was proposed to accept these suggestions.

The Minister stated the size of the Central Government as also in the State Government had become very large and unwieldy. The Government had, therefore, proposed that the size of the Cabinet should be restricted to ten per cent of the legislative strength. However, the Minister stated that the government wanted to make a difference in relation to a unicameral House and bicameral House. The Parliamentary Standing Committee had recommended that in relation to either category of Legislative Bodies, the strength should be confined to 15 per cent of the strength of the lower House. This suggestion had been accepted by the Government. The Government had recommended a size of seven to be the minimum size in the context of several State Legislative Assemblies which had either sixty or ninety members. But the Standing Committee, keeping particularly the position of the North-eastern States in mind, had recommended that the minimum size should be twelve. The Minister stated that this fifteen per cent would be subject to the condition of twelve which would be applicable to those Legislative Assemblies which have smaller Houses.

Participating in the discussion*, Shri Chandrakant Khaire of the

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* Others who participated in the discussion were: Sarvashri Shivraj V. Patil, Girdhari Lal Bhargava, Rupchand Pal, Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi, Bikram Keshari Deo, Arun Kumar, Bhartruhari Mahtab, Ravi Prakash Verma, Ramjivan Singh, Abdul Rashid Shaheen, E. Ponnuswamy, Prabodh Panda, Rajesh Ranjan *alias* Pappu Yadav, Prabhunath Singh, Dr. M.V.V.S. Murthi and Dr. Bikram Sarkar

Shiv Sena said that the amendment was necessary because the person who was elected by the people at times associated himself with bigger parties to gain a Ministerial post. He said that the NDA Government had taken a very good step concerning defection.

Shri Rashid Alvi (Bahujan Samaj Party) said that the Anti-Defection Law had been misused and wrongly interpreted uptil now. He felt that the Presiding Officers alone should not be allowed to decide a case of defection but a Committee should be constituted for that purpose.

Dr.(Smt.) V. Saroja (AIADMK) felt that merely increasing the number of Ministers from 10 per cent to 15 per cent or even more would not give the Government a more effective control over administration.

Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh (RJD) wanted to know as to what would be the position in case of merger of a party. The Bill provided that the final decision with regard to defection would lie in the hands of the Speaker. But the court had been given the power to review it. He said that this went against the dignity of the office of the Speaker.

Shri G.M. Banatwalla (Muslim League Kerala State Committee) suggested that the decision on defection should be given by the President on the mandatory recommendation of the Election Commission. The position of the member expelled or suspended from his party should also be legally clarified.

Shri Ram Vilas Paswan (Lok Jan Shakti Party) said that there was no mention in the Bill as to what would happen to those parties who acted against their manifesto on the basis of which they went to the public for votes.

Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal (Revolutionary Socialist Party) said that his party had been demanding, since long, to terminate the membership of a person who defected to another party. He added that defection was a threat to smaller parties.

Shri Haribhau Shankar Mahale (JD-Secular) felt that the Bill would prove to be helpful in cleansing the social as well as political life and in abolishing corruption.

Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav [JD(United) Democratic] wanted to know whether any measure had been taken to check the ongoing practice of giving Cabinet status to members by designating them as Chairmen of various public bodies. If that was not so, he felt that the objective of limiting the size of the Council of Ministers would be defeated.

Replying to the discussion, the Minister of Law and Justice and Minister of Commerce and Industry, Shri Arun Jaitley, said that the last eighteen years had given an opportunity to study the development of the polity in the country. He said that most persons who had split away from political parties had joined ruling parties and generally the trend had been to get the Ministerial posts. He said that the amendment was intended to curb that mischief seen over the last few years. The second aspect of the amendment was to restrict the size of the Council of Ministers. The Legislature was supreme but powers which had to be exercised by legislators and Legislative Bodies were, at times, being exercised elsewhere. After the amendment, the discretion of the Speaker in the exercise of the power under the Tenth Schedule was going to be limited. Regarding the parties expelling members from their membership, the Minister stated that the provisions of the Tenth Schedule itself took care of that.

The Bill, as amended, was passed.

The Constitution (One hundredth Amendment) Bill, 2003:* Moving the motion for consideration of the Bill on 22 December 2003, the Deputy Prime Minister and in-charge of the Minister of Home Affairs and Ministry of Personnel and Public Grievances and Pensions, Shri L.K. Advani, said that the amendment sought to include Bodo language in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution. The inclusion of Bodo Language in the Eighth Schedule was in pursuance of the Memorandum of Settlement arrived at between the representatives of the Bodo community, the Government of Assam and the Government of India earlier.

Participating in the discussion**, Shri K. Yerrannaidu of the TDP said it was his earnest desire that Telugu Language should also be given the status of a national official language.

Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh (RJD) said that Bhojpuri language was an international, rich and a very famous language of the country and requested the Government to consider its inclusion in the Eighth Schedule.

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* The Bill was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 18 August 2003

** Others who participated in the discussion were: Sarvashri P.R. Kyndiah, Anadi Sahu, Baju Ban Riyan, Sansuma Khunggur Bwiswmuthiary, V. Dhananjaya Kumar, Kirti Jha Azad, Salkhan Murmu, Rupchand Pal, S.S. Palanimanickam, Prabhunath Singh, Iqbal Ahmed Saradgi, Basudeb Acharia, Satyavrat Chaturvedi, P.H. Pandian, Ramji Lal Suman, Bishnu Pada Ray, Ramdas Athawale, Dr. Girija Vyas and Dr. Bikram Sarkar

Shri Rashid Alvi (Bahujan Samaj Party) requested the Government to recognise Urdu as the second official language and include Persian in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution.

Shri Chandrakant Khaire (Shiv Sena) thanked the Government for giving justice to the Bodo language.

Sardar Simranjit Singh Mann (SAD-SS Mann) expressed support to the Bill and said that the Pahadi language from Himachal Pradesh be included in the Eighth Schedule.

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence, Prof. Chaman Lal Gupta, said that Dogri was a language spoken by crores of people and thanked the Government for including it in the Eighth Schedule.

Shri G.M. Banatwalla (Muslim League Kerala State Committee) requested that more and more languages be included in the Eighth Schedule. He also requested the Government to work for the promotion of the languages already included in the Schedule.

Replying to the discussion, the Deputy Prime Minister, Shri L.K. Advani, thanked all the members for giving unanimous support to the Bill. He informed the members that only 14 languages were given recognition in the Eighth Schedule at the time of framing of the constitution in 1950. In 1967, Sindhi language was included and later in 1992, Konkani, Manipuri and Nepali were also included. He stated that there were 33 languages for which demand was being made to be included in the Eighth Schedule and assured the members that these languages would also be included in the near future.

The Bill, as amended*, was passed.

C. QUESTION HOUR**

During the First and Second Parts of the Fourteenth Session, 16 and 2 sittings, respectively, were fixed for Question Hour. In all, 13,433 Notices of Questions were received. Out of these, 10,236 were Starred, 3,173 were Unstarred and 24 were Short Notice Questions. Out of these, 360 Notices were admitted as Starred Questions, 3,400 as Unstarred Questions and 4 as Short Notice Questions.

On 2 December 2003, as the House adjourned for the day after

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* Besides Bodo language, three other languages *viz.* Dogri, Maithili and Santhali were also included in the Eighth Schedule in the Bill, as amended

** This information covers both the First and Second Part of the Fourteenth Session

obituary references, Starred Questions were not called for oral answer. Replies to the Starred Questions listed for the day were, as such, treated as Unstarred and their answers, together with the answers to the Unstarred Questions, were printed in the official report of the day.

Due to interruptions in the House on 3 December 2003, Starred Questions could not be called for oral answer. Replies to the Starred Questions listed for the day were, therefore, treated as Unstarred and their answers, together with the answers to the Unstarred Questions, were printed in the official report of the day.

On 4 February 2004, as the Question Hour was suspended, Starred Questions listed for the day were treated as Unstarred and their replies, together with replies to the Unstarred Questions, were printed in the official report of the day.

Daily average of Questions in the List of Questions orally answered: The average number of Starred Questions answered orally in the House during the Session was 3.6. The maximum number of Starred Questions answered orally on a day was 6 on 4 and 5 December 2003.

The average number of questions appearing in the Unstarred List came to 188 per day against the prescribed limit of 230, the minimum being 114 questions on 5 February 2004.

Half-an-Hour Discussion: In all, 10 notices of Half-an-Hour Discussion were received during the Session. Out of these, 4 Notices were admitted but only one notice was discussed on the floor of the House.

D. OBITUARY REFERENCES

During the Session, obituary references were made on the passing away of Union Minister Shri Murasoli Maran and Shri G. Mallikarjunappa, sitting member; Sarvashri B.K. Nair, S. Ramasamy, Nirmal Chandra Jain, Kalicharan Sakargayam, Kushak Bakula, A.N. Singh Deo, Daya Ram Shakya, Mahendra Sigh Bhati, Dr. Ranen Sen, Dr. Krupasindhu Bhoi, Prof. M.L. Sondhi, Prof. Ramakrishna More, Smt. Subhadra Joshi, Smt. Marjorie Godfrey, Rani Lalita Rajyalaxmi and Begum Abida Ahmed, all former members.

Members stood in silence as a mark of respect to the deceased.

RAJYA SABHA

TWO HUNDREDTH SESSION*

The Rajya Sabha, which met for its Two Hundredth Session on 2 December 2003, was adjourned *sine die* on 23 December 2003. The House met again on 30 January 2004 and was adjourned *sine die* on 5 February 2004. The Rajya Sabha was then prorogued by the President on 10 February 2004.

A resume of some of the important discussions held and other business transacted during the Session is given below:

A. STATEMENTS/DISCUSSIONS

The Interim Budget (Railways) 2004-2005: The discussion on the Interim Budget (Railways) 2004-2005 took place on 3 and 4 February 2004. Initiating the discussion, Shri Suresh Pachouri of the Indian National Congress said that the targets relating to the construction of new rail lines, doubling of railway lines and track renewals had not been achieved. Though the Government had declared the year 2003 as a 'Passenger Facility and Safety Year', the number of railway accidents had put a question mark on the Railway safety measures. He requested the Government to ensure the safety of the Railway passengers, to provide better facilities to them and to strive for generating internal resources to meet the targets set.

Participating in the discussion**, Shri Ajay Maroo of the Bharatiya Janata Party said that rail links should be provided in those areas where they did not exist as it would further generate job opportunities for the people.

Shri P.G. Narayanan of the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam requested the Minister of Railways to introduce the Madurai–New Delhi train on a daily basis, to complete the various on-going gauge conversation projects in Tamil Nadu and to allocate adequate funds to complete the Mass Rapid Transit system (MRTS) project in Chennai.

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* Contributed by the Research and Library Section, Rajya Sabha Secretariat

** Others who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri Dipankar Mukherjee, S. Viduthalai Virumbi, Gandhi Azad, Moolchand Meena, Drupad Borgoham, Jayantilal Barot, N.K. Premachandran, Balkavi Bairagi, R.S. Gavai, Khan Ghufran Zahidi, Prof. R.B.S. Varma, Prof. Saif-ud-Din Soz, Prof. Alka Balram Kshtriya, Shrimati N.P. Durga, Shrimati Saroj Dubey, Shrimati Savita Sharda and Shrimati Jamana Devi Barupal

Shri Satish Pradhan of the Shiv Sena said that women travelling in the local trains in Mumbai were facing a lot of difficulties and there was a need for special provisions for providing them safety and security.

Shri Bimal Jalan (Nominated) said that the Railways had been constrained by budgetary and financial resources. He suggested that the Railways Budget should be divided into two parts: the commercial and the social parts. A professional social audit of the Railways should be done to improve the way of managing and doing business, to reduce the amount of paper work, to enhance the inter-departmental consultations and the inter-department inputs which would save 25 to 30 per cent in terms of time and cost of business and would also raise resources and savings.

Shri Shankar Roy Chowdhury (Independent) pointed out that almost 20 per cent of the area of the country did not have any Railway line or link, and most of such areas fell in the North-Eastern States. New railway lines should be laid in that area, he added.

Replying to the discussion on 4 February 2004, the Union Minister of Railways, Shri Nitish Kumar, said that the financial position of the Railways was continuously improving and about Rs.1500 crore had been saved from the estimated expenditure which would be appropriated in the Development Fund and the Special Railway Safety Fund. Efforts had also been made to ensure safety in the Railways. The old Railway tracks were being replaced and a Special Railway Safety Fund had been created with a provision of Rs.17,000 crore. A Corporate Safety Plan of Indian Railways had been formulated for the management of the Railway safety aspects and Rs.31,000 crore would be spent under the Plan.

The Minister further said that an Action Plan was being implemented in every Railway Division and Zone for introduction of eight-wheeler tank wagons. The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kanpur, and the R.D.S.O. of the Railways were jointly working on the Technology Mission on Railway Safety to develop low cost technology for safe journey. The Railway Protection Force (RPF) was for the safety of the Railway property and every State Government had constituted the Government Railway Police (GRP) for security under the State Police. The RPF could help the GRP but it could not replace the GRP for security purposes. After amendment in the Railway Act and the Railway Protection Force Act, the RPF can now investigate, prosecute for certain minor offences like entry by men into women's compartments, persons travelling without tickets, etc. and the GRP would tackle offences of a serious nature.

The Government had taken some initiatives to complete all the projects within a period of five years under the Remote Areas Rail Sampark Yojana for connecting the remote and backward areas with the Rail network and the economy would get a boost by generating the employment opportunities during the construction period and thereafter. Under the programme of expansion of railway network, additional rail lines of nine thousand kilometers' length would be laid throughout the country, including the North-eastern region. The construction work of the Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Project had been divided into three segments and the work on the Udhampur-Katra and the Kazigund-Baramulla sectors was to be completed by the year 2005; the target for the completion of the work on the Katra-Kazigund sector was the year 2007 as that was a very difficult terrain. The Project had been declared as a National Project and funds had been allotted separately for that.

The Minister further stated that the Government had announced in the Budget that 50 new trains would be started and out of those, 44 trains had already been started and two more trains were likely to be started before March 2004. The Government had also announced 24 extensions of services out of which 21 had already been done and increase in frequency was announced for 13 trains and frequency of 12 trains had already been increased. Out of the eighteen Sampark-Kranti Express trains for providing quicker connectivity from the States to the national capital, seventeen trains would be started in the next financial year and one would be started in this year itself and no State had been neglected in that regard. Nine new projects had also been included in the Supplementary Demands. Out of these, two projects were for the North-eastern region, one was related to gauge conversion of 500 kilometres' long rail line of the Rangia-Murgum Celek sector and another was related to a new rail line between Ziribam and Imphal in the State of Manipur.

The motions for consideration of the Appropriation (Railways) Vote on Account Bill, 2004, the Appropriation (Railways) Bill, 2004 and the Appropriation (Railways) No. 2 Bill, 2004 and the Clauses, etc., were adopted and the Bills were passed.

The Interim Budget (General) 2004-05: The discussion on the Interim Budget (General) 2004-05 took place on 5 February 2004.

Initiating the discussion, Shri Pranab Mukherjee of the Indian National Congress said that the Vote on Account on Interim Budget was not new but the extraordinary way in which it was being done in the Session was not appropriate. The Lok Sabha could have been dissolved

immediately after both the Houses were adjourned *sine die* by the Presiding Officers and the constitutional impropriety could have been avoided if the Government had taken the normal course. He said that in the Interim Budget, it had been stated that during the last six years, the Government had brought down the fiscal deficit to 4.8 per cent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP), the revenue deficit to 3.6 per cent and also contained the average inflation to around 4.8 per cent. But in those six years, the revenue had increased only by 83 per cent, whereas during the period 1991-92 to 1996-97, the revenue increase was double, from Rs. 56,000 crore to Rs. 110,000 crore. Therefore, 83 per cent revenue growth was not an astonishing achievement by any standards. The Government was talking of fiscal deficit of 4.8 per cent of the GDP, but it was related to the previous year. In the past one quarter, 8.4 per cent rate of growth was achieved and for which it was being stated by the Government that there was so much feel-good factor, but that was due to the good monsoon and the increase in the agricultural growth. Citing an example, he said that if the National Highways (NH) 1 had a length of 1500 kms. which had been constructed earlier, and if two lanes were added to it, the calculation became 3000 kms. and that was the method of calculation done in the Ministry of Surface Transport. However, that was not a new addition to the National Highways but a mere expansion. The tempo of development which was at the end of the Eighth Five Year Plan, could have been maintained, especially during the last three years of the Eighth Plan when there was seven-and-a half-per cent rate of growth of the GDP.

Participating in the discussion*, Shri C. Ramachandraiah of the Telugu Desam Party said that to kick-start the economy of the country, the agriculture sector had to be given more thrust as more than 65 per cent of the population still depended on it.

Shri Lalu Prasad of the Rashtriya Janata Dal said that the premature dissolution of the Lok Sabha was a measure not warranted by the Constitution and which was against the public interest.

Shri Nilotpal Basu of the Communist Party of India (Marxist) pointed out that employment was continuously decreasing and as per the Planning Commission, only 9 per cent employment was available in the

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* Those who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri Kalraj Mishra, Rama Shanker Kaushik, Kapil Sibal, Lalitbhai Mehta, Gandhi Azad, Fali S. Nariman, Lajpat Rai, Eknath K. Thakur, R.S. Gaval, V.V. Raghavan, Manoj Bhattacharya, T.S. Bajwa, Datta Meghe, Bashistha Narain Singh, Prof. Saif-ud-Din Soz and Shrimati S.G. Indira

organized sector and about 91 per cent in the unorganized sector. He requested the Government to increase the public investment so that the employment opportunities could be enhanced for the people.

Shri S. Viduthalai Virumbi of the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam wanted to know from the Minister of Finance as to how much subsidies were being given by the Government to those who were exporting foodgrains and to those who were taking foodgrain items from the ration shops.

Shri Bimal Jalan (Nominated) said that India was in a strong position today because there was a continuity in its policies over a long period of time.

Dr. P.C. Alexander (Independent), while welcoming the Budget, pointed out that there was no mention of education in the Budget speech. He requested the Minister to consider a scheme for selecting ten or twelve universities in the country as 'Centres of Excellence' and to provide them the necessary financial assistance so that these could be developed as model universities, which could attract students from foreign countries.

Replying to the discussion, the Minister of Finance, Shri Jaswant Singh, said that the expenditure management by the Government had been very satisfactory and the revenue had grown by 17 per cent in the current year. The reduction in fiscal deficit from 5.9 per cent to 4.8 per cent of the GDP was a significant achievement. As regards the problem of unemployment, he expressed the hope that as a result of the efforts being made by the Government in the development of infrastructure and other areas, the direct as well as consequential employment would increase. The customs tariff had been reduced by a total of about Rs.3,500 crore and the customs recovery target had also been exceeded.

The Minister informed that a Group of Ministers had been set up for the purpose of addressing the issue of the outstanding dues of the workers of the PSUs. The recommendations made by the Group of Ministers had been accepted by the Cabinet and these were being sorted out by the concerned Ministries. The Ministry of Finance had approved that the money would be made available as soon as the detailed requirements of amount to be paid were sent by the Ministries.

The motions for consideration of the Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 2004, the Appropriation Bill, 2004 and the Finance Bill 2004 and Clauses, etc., were adopted and the Bills were returned to the Lok Sabha.

Statement by the Minister of External Affairs on the Action by the Royal Government of Bhutan against Insurgent Groups: On 15 December 2003, making a statement in the House, the Minister of External Affairs, Shri Yashwant Sinha, said that the Royal Government of Bhutan had informed that it had started military action against the Indian insurgent groups operating from camps in that country. The Government of India strongly supported the action of the Royal Government of Bhutan. The Indian Army was also taking necessary measures to check movement of militants from Bhutan into India, and the State Governments of Assam and West Bengal had been advised to remain alert to deal with the situation arising out of the action, including sealing the borders and maintaining peace. The Royal Government of Bhutan had always assured the Government of India that it would not allow its territory to be used for activities inimical to India's interests.

Replying to the points raised by the members, the Minister said that the Indian Army was positioned at all strategic locations through which the insurgents could try and find their way into India. As regards the protection of the Bhutanese interests, the Government of India had taken care of all their concerns, including convoys to Bhutan that moved through the Indian territory. Full cooperation was being received from the State Governments of Assam and West Bengal in that regard. He clarified that whatever assistance the Royal Government of Bhutan would require from the Government of India, it would be made available to them until the task in hand was completed.

Statement by the Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance on the progress on action taken pursuant to the recommendations of the Joint Parliamentary Committee on Stock Market Scam: On 16 December 2003, making a statement in the House, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance, Shri Shripad Yesso Naik, said that the Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) on Stock Market Scam and Matters Relating Thereto had submitted its report to the Lok Sabha on 19 December 2002, and the Action Taken Report was presented on 9 May 2003. As desired by the JPC, the Government would continue to submit periodic reports of action taken, at six-monthly intervals, till the Parliament was fully satisfied. The Government had greatly benefited from the deliberations of the JPC and expressed its gratitude to the Committee for its wide-ranging and valuable suggestions. While certain legislative measures such as the amendment of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) Act, and repeal of the Unit Trust of India (UTI) Act had already come into effect, other proposals like the amendment to the Securities Contract (Regulations) Act, for ensuring

demutualisation and corporatisation of the stock exchanges and the amendment of the Banking Regulations Act for better regulation of the cooperative banks were before Parliament. The Government was also considering bringing about other legislations like the Company Law (Amendment) Bill and the Government Securities Bill, 2003.

The Minister said that between the previous Action Taken Report and the present one, a number of measures had been taken, which included the setting up of additional institutional mechanisms to keep a regular watch on the financial markets, establishment of a coordination mechanism with regulators and investigating agencies, reference to the SEBI regarding the secondary market investment decisions of the UTI in 89 companies identified by the Tarapore Committee, setting up of the Serious Frauds Investigation Office, etc. While some recommendations were pending for want of legislative mandates, others could be implemented only after the current investigations or the judicial proceedings in courts of law were completed. The Government was monitoring developments on a continuous basis and there had been good progress in the ongoing investigations. He assured the members that the Government would endeavour to see that the pending action was completed expeditiously.

Calling Attention on the plight of tea garden workers due to sickness and closure of a large number of tea gardens leading to starvation deaths: On 19 December 2003, Shri Pranab Mukherjee of the Indian National Congress called the attention of the Minister of Commerce and Industry in this regard.

Replying to the Calling Attention, the Minister of Law and Justice and Minister of Commerce and Industry, Shri Arun Jaitley, said that the domestic tea industry was faced with a situation of continuously falling tea prices at auctions for the last four years. The average auction prices of tea were about Rs.76 per kilogram in 1998, which started declining from mid-1999 onwards and currently they had reached about Rs. 55 per kilogram. The domestic prices of tea moved more or less in tandem with the international prices which had remained depressed over the last few years due to the oversupply of tea in the global market. They declined from about US$ 1.88 per kilogram in 1998 to US$ 1.32 per kilogram in 2002. The decline in the international prices coupled with problems like decreasing exports, sluggish rate of growth of domestic demand and the higher cost of production had adversely affected the domestic tea industry.

The Minister said that the individual tea gardens, particularly the

medium sized ones and those financially weak, had been severely affected by the decline in prices, especially because the cost of production continued to be high. Some tea gardens were sick and some had been closed down in the States of West Bengal, Kerala, Assam and Tripura. As per the available information, 43 tea gardens were presently closed and out of these, 25 were in West Bengal, 12 in Kerala and 3 each in Assam and Tripura affecting more than 35,000 workers. Recently, 36 closed gardens were studied by the Expert Committees appointed by the Government of India.

The Minister said that the Plantation Labour Act, 1951 provided for the welfare of plantation labour and regulated the conditions of work in plantations. The Act specified the facilities to be provided to the workers, including drinking water, housing, educational and medical facilities. The State Governments were responsible for the administration and implementation of the Act. The Government of India had already taken up the matter with the concerned State Governments for intervention and providing necessary relief. The State Governments of West Bengal and Kerala had taken steps to provide relief to the affected plantation workers which included the creation of employment opportunities through various schemes such as the *Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana*, extending health care, implementing nutritional programmes for the children, distributing foodgrains, augmenting drinking water facilities and the distribution of cash to the most needy. The Government of India was fully alive to the problems confronting the tea sector and several steps had been taken to support the tea industry. According to the reports of the Committees constituted to study the 36 closed gardens, all those estates were required to invest both in the plantations as well as in the factory and other infrastructure to achieve better results in terms of quantity, quality and price realisation of their tea. The Government had facilitated discussions by the managements of those gardens with their bankers to work out a revival package which would include the promoters' contribution, further loans from the concerned banks with restructuring of the accounts and also assistance from the Union Government.

Other measures taken by the Government to provide necessary support to the tea industry included an additional duty of excise of Re.1/- per kilogram as a surcharge, which would form a fund for the development, modernisation and rehabilitation of the tea plantation sector. Assistance through this fund would be extended for providing interest subsidy to the closed gardens which were potentially viable for increasing production of orthodox tea, generic promotion of tea and research and development. The schemes were being finalised for

implementation of a number of developmental schemes during the Tenth Five Year Plan by the Tea Board for enhancing productivity, quality and marketability of tea produced in the country. Financial and technical assistance was being provided for various plantation development activities like replanting, rejuvenation, creation of irrigation facilities, etc., and an outlay of Rs.350 crore had been provided in the Tenth Five Year Plan for the Tea Board for the purpose. A price stabilisation fund with an initial corpus of Rs.500 crore had been established for providing relief to the small growers of plantation commodities such as tea, coffee, rubber and tobacco. The Government had moved the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the Indian Banks Association for providing an effective credit relief package for the tea industry from the banking sector. The Tea Board was in the process of implementing an Information Technology (IT) based Information Dissemination Plan for the tea industry, including electronisation of auction centers which would improve the efficiency of the tea purchase systems and reduce the transaction time and costs. In order to promote the export of tea, financial assistance was provided to tea exporters to meet part of the cost of handling, packaging, transport/freight and value addition, even as efforts were being made to improve the quality of tea produced in the country through a quality upgradation programme being implemented by the Tea Board. Promotional support was being lent to Indian exporters in promoting and marketing of Indian brands. The import duty on items of machinery used to improve productivity and quality of tea, including value addition, had been reduced to an all inclusive rate of 5 per cent. An Inter-Ministerial Committee set up by the Ministry of Labour had also studied the issues relating to the plantation sector, particularly the social costs, the Provident Fund dues of the plantation workers and the taxation structures. The recommendations of the Committee were under consideration.

Besides those measures, the Government had also got a study conducted on the primary marketing system for tea, including the auction system. Based on the study, the Government had notified the Tea Marketing Control Order, 2003 and modified the auction rules in order to bring about greater transparency in the price discovery mechanism for tea. Due to these changes, there had been a saving in transaction time and cost in selling tea through auctions resulting in larger volumes of tea being sold in a shorter period of time. He informed the House that there had been greater absorption of tea in the domestic market and the overall supply and demand imbalance had been greatly reduced. The overall improvement in productivity, cost reduction, a conscious effort towards the production of quality tea and better

management practices would go a long way in reviving the tea industry and ensuring the welfare of the workers.

Replying to the points raised by the members, the Minister said that there was a problem of over-supply of tea. Therefore, there was a need to increase the domestic as well as the international demand by cutting down the domestic cost and to become more competitive. Whatever reforms were required could come only by way of consensus from all the stakeholders. The Government would certainly hold consultations with all the stakeholders, the Minister added.

Short Duration Discussion on the unemployment problem in the country: A Short Duration Discussion on the Unemployment problem in the country took place on 23 December 2003 and 3 February 2004.

Initiating the discussion on 23 December 2003, Shri Suresh Pachouri of the Indian National Congress said that the youth of the nation was considered to be the main power of the country. Increasing unemployment among the youth was a matter of great worry which was affecting the progress and development of the country. He pointed out that the main reason for unemployment was the increasing population. The other reasons were the non-exploitation of resources with far-sightedness, the desire to seek white collar jobs and the feeling of shyness in adopting traditional trades and patriarchal occupations by the youth. The employment opportunities depended on the economic development of a country which, in turn, depended on the investment of capital. He expressed doubts on capital investment as the Government was curtailing the capital expenditure. The Economic Survey also stated that 84 lakh people were becoming unemployed every year. He said that the Government jobs were decreasing and the people were being removed from their jobs in the Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) under the process of disinvestment. Urban unemployment had been increasing at the rate of 0.49 per cent annually and had touched 3.45 per cent and the aggregate State-wise unemployment rate had increased to 2.1 per cent in 1999-2000. He stated that as per the report of the International Labour Organisation (ILO), the number of unemployed people in India had crossed the figure of ten crore. There had been a downfall of 1.07 per cent per year in the rate of employment generation in the country during the period from 1994 to 2000. Out of the total unemployed people, about 69 per cent were in the age group of 20 to 30 years. Therefore, employment-oriented education had to be encouraged, which required drastic changes in the education system of the country. The cottage industries had to be promoted so that the youth of the rural areas did not migrate to the urban areas in search of jobs.

Participating in the discussion* Shri Lalitbhai Mehta of the Bharatiya Janata Party pointed out that the rate of unemployment growth in India was 4.4 per cent which was closer to the United States of America (USA), the most developed nation of the world. He said that as per the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor Report of the London School of Business published in the *Business Standard,* the new enterprises in India had created 17 million jobs in the year 2003, which was the second highest in the world after China.

Shri Janeshwar Mishra of the Samajwadi Party said that indiscriminate automation had further rendered people jobless. He requested the Government to ensure that no retrenchment should take place in the public as well as the private sectors.

Shri S. Viduthalai Virumbi of the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam argued that though the country's GDP had gone up over the years, the job opportunities had not increased commensurate with it.

Shri B.P. Singhal of the Bharatiya Janata Party said that the Indian youth needed a proper direction and the attitude of leaving everything to the Government had to be changed.

Shri Manoj Bhattacharya of the Revolutionary Socialist Party said that there were 21 crore young people between the age of 16 and 26 years, out of whom only 23.6 per cent could be employed and that too in the unorganized sector. He alleged that the 34 crores of people living below the poverty line were not adequately being taken care of by the Government.

Shri Lalu Prasad of the Rashtriya Janata Dal said that the problem of unemployment was a great challenge before the country. He suggested that an all-party discussion should be organized for finding a solution to this problem.

Replying to the discussion, the Minister of Labour, Shri Sahib Singh Verma, said that the problem of unemployment is a gigantic one. New technology had to be brought in to compete in the global economic environment and to keep pace with the World Trade Organisation (WTO). Necessary changes in the training courses being imparted by the Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) had been brought about according to the market requirements. The cost of production was being brought

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* Others who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri Jibon Roy, Gandhi Azad, Ramachandra Khuntia, N. Jothi, Satish Pradhan, Rajeev Shukla and Shrimati Saroj Dubey

down by lowering the tax on the goods produced by artisans. The Government had also raised the issue of free flow of labour at the WTO, and a favourable atmosphere for investments had been created in the country. The S.P. Gupta Committee had suggested that through the work on the social and personnel services, the Gramin Rozgar Yojana and the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana, the employment generation would get a boost. The creation of ten million jobs per year was being materialized and due to the conducive atmosphere, the Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) were investing money in the country which would help in creating more jobs.

Short Duration Discussion on the situation in Assam and Bihar due to Railway Recruitment Policy: Initiating the discussion on 17 December 2003, Shri Suresh Pachouri of the Indian National Congress said that the violent incidents that took place in the States of Assam and Bihar due to the railway recruitment policy was alarming for the country. The North-eastern States, particularly Assam, were very sensitive States. He cautioned that one should not become emotional on the issue as it could affect the unity and integrity of the nation and brotherhood among the people of various States. He urged that concrete steps should be taken for maintaining the unity, integrity and peace in the country and for keeping stability in the sensitive States so that such incidents did not recur.

Taking part in the discussion*, Shri Dipankar Mukherjee of the Communist Party of India (Marxist) said that unemployment was rising and the separatist and communal forces would try to get the issue diverted from the main economic issues. He argued that the Railways could not be State-centric but had to be a unifying factor.

Shri Abu Asim Azmi of the Samajwadi Party said that the pace of development in the country, particularly in the rural areas, had been very sluggish and people were forced to migrate to the metropolitan cities in search of jobs. Rising unemployment was at the root of such problems.

Shri Sanjay Nirupam of the Shiv Sena urged that the policy of the Railway Recruitment Board should provide for some kind of reservation for the local people, particularly in the lower category posts in the regional offices of the Railways.

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* Others who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri S.S. Ahluwalia, Drupad Borgohain, Dwijendra Nath Sharmah, Indramani Bora, Gandhi Azad, Kamendu Bhattacharjee, Naben Rebia, Bashistha Narain Singh, Rajeev Shukla, R.S. Gavai, Dinesh Trivedi, C. Apok Jamir, Swaraj Kaushal and Prof. Ram Deo Bhandary

Dr. Arun Kumar Sarma of the Asom Gana Parishad argued that every region should have an equitable share in the development of the country and in the employment of the Government.

Shri Shankar Roy Chowdhury (Independent) pointed out that the policy that had been followed was that the recruitment to the Group 'C' and Group 'D' posts had to be done on a zonal basis.

Keeping in view the sentiments of the House, a resolution regarding promoting regional harmony, unity and integrity of the country was moved by the Hon'ble Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri Bhairon Singh Shekhawat, on 17 December 2003. The Resolution stated:

> "This House expresses its deep sense of anguish over the recent incidents of violence in Bihar, Assam, Maharashtra and in some other parts of the country in the wake of Railway recruitment examinations in which many innocent lives have been lost and properties destroyed. Such incidents of parochialism should be condemned and countered unitedly and with determination. This House unanimously appeals to all to promote harmony and the spirit of common brotherhood amongst all the people of India transcending religious, linguistic, regional or sectional diversities. All issues that have a potential for promoting divisive tendencies and regional discord can and should be resolved amicably through discussion, dialogue and other democratic means, and not through violent means.
>
> Let us resolve to protect the regional harmony, unity and integrity of the country and re-dedicate ourselves to this cause".

The Resolution was adopted unanimously.

Shri Swami Chinmayanand, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs, intervening in the discussion, said that regional and ethnic discrimination should be condemned at all costs. The Resolution adopted by the House in this regard was an important step.

Replying to the discussion, the Union Minister of Railways, Shri Nitish Kumar, said that so far as the Railway Recruitment Policy was concerned, the rules applicable for other Ministries of the Government of India were also applicable for the Railways and there was no separate policy of the Railways. The selection to the posts of Group 'A' was done by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) and the selection to the Group 'B' posts was through promotion. The recruitment to the Group 'C' and Group 'D' posts was done through the Railway Recruitment Board. In the Railway Budget, it was stated that 20,000 vacancies of 'safety category' would be filled up. The process of filling up 17, 348

vacancies out of those 20,000 through different Railway Recruitment Boards was continuing. In Assam also, the same process was going on and the appointments were being made by the Railway Recruitment Board on the basis of open recruitment test and merit. He asserted that the Government wanted the process of recruitment to be transparent so that all could get a fair chance. If more improvement was required in this regard, the Government was prepared to do so. He said that it was not proper to level allegations and counter allegations against each other and urged the members to move forward in accordance with the spirit of the Resolution which had been adopted by the House in this regard.

B. LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

*The Indian Medicine Central Council (Amendment) Bill, 2003**: Moving the motion for consideration of the Bill on 5 December 2003, the Minister of Health and Family Welfare and the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Smt. Sushma Swaraj, said that the Indian Medical Council Act was enacted in 1956 to regulate the functioning of the medical colleges. Similarly, the Indian Medicine Central Council Act was enacted in 1970 to constitute the Central Council of Indian Medicine (CCIM) for regulation of education and maintenance of the Central Register of practitioners of *Ayurveda, Siddha* and *Unani* systems of medicine. However, the experience in implementing the provisions of the Indian Medicine Central Council Act brought out glaring inadequacy on account of which the CCIM was unable to enforce the provisions of the Act. There had been massive proliferation of sub-standard colleges of Indian systems of medicine in recent years. The CCIM granted permission for opening of colleges and courses and for enhancing admission capacity of the existing institutions under the Indian systems of medicine without enforcing the minimum standards of education required under the regulations made under the Act. The Minister clarified that to arrest the mushroom growth of the sub-standard colleges and courses and increase in the admission capacity in the existing colleges devoid of requisite infrastructure, the Indian Medicine Central Council Act, 1970 was amended *vide* the Indian Medicine Central Council (Amendment) Act, 2002, to provide for permission of the Central Government for establishing new medical institutions and to open new or higher courses of study and increase admission capacity. The amendment came into force with effect from 28 January 2003. However, the Ministry of Law

* The Bill was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 5 December 2003

and Justice had pointed out certain deficiencies in the amended Act and found that the term "medical institutions" used in sections 13A and 13B of the Act could not be interpreted otherwise or in conflict with the definition under Section 2 of the Indian Medicine Central Council Act, 1970, which provided that institutions competent to grant degrees, diplomas or licence in Indian medicine could only be treated as "medical institutions" and, therefore, "medical college" did not come under the definition of "medical institution". In order to meet the situation, it was decided to amend the Indian Medicine Central Council Act, 1970. Accordingly, the Indian Medicine Central Council (Amendment) Ordinance, 2003 was promulgated on 7 November 2003, so as to insert a new clause (ea) in Section 2 of the Act to provide for the definition of "medical college"; and by adding a new Section namely 13C after Sections 13A and 13B of the Act, the existing medical colleges would have to seek permission of the Central Government within three years for maintaining uniformity in the standards of the Indian system of medicine. The Bill sought to replace the said Ordinance, she clarified. Later, she replied to the points raised by the members*.

The motion for consideration of the Bill and Clauses, etc., as amended, were adopted and the Bill was passed.

*Statutory Resolution seeking disapproval of the Representation of the People (Amendment) Ordinance, 2003 and the Representation of the People (Second Amendment) Bill, 2003***: Moving the motion for consideration of the Bill on 16 December 2003, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Law and Justice, Shri P.C. Thomas said that Section 13AA of the Representation of the People Act, 1950 provided for the designation or nomination of an officer as the district election officer for each district in a State. However, there was no provision of the district in the Union territories when the Section 13AA was inserted into the Representation of the People Act, 1950 in 1966. That provision needed an amendment because the Union territories were now having districts. Therefore, it had become necessary to amend the provision and the Election Commission had also recommended that Section 13AA may be amended accordingly to provide for designation or nomination of the District Election Officers in the Union territories, including the National Capital Territory of Delhi, for facilitating better management of elections in the Union territories. He clarified that the necessity of promulgating

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* Those who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri Rumandla Ramachandrayya, S. Viduthalai Virumbi, Dr. A.R. Kidwai and Prof. Saif-ud-Din Soz

** The Bill, as passed by the Lok Sabha, was laid on the Table on 10 December 2003

the Representation of the People (Amendment) Ordinance, 2003 was felt because the Assembly elections were due to take place in the National Capital Territory of Delhi and the Election Commission had requested to amend the said Act at the earliest. He requested that the Statutory Resolution moved may be withdrawn in view of the urgency in which the Ordinance was promulgated.

The Resolution was, by leave, withdrawn. The motion for consideration of the Bill and Clauses, etc., was adopted and the Bill was passed.

The Constitution (Ninety-seventh Amendment) Bill, 2003:* Moving the motion for consideration of the Bill on 18 December 2003, the Minister of Law and Justice and the Minister of Commerce and Industry, Shri Arun Jaitley, said that there appeared to be a broad consensus in the country that the provisions regarding the merger of political parties had not created any serious problem as far as the functioning of the 52nd Constitutional Amendment relating to the Anti-Defection Act was concerned. In view of the experience, the Government had consulted political parties and the legislation providing for deletion of the provisions with regard to split, as contained in the paragraph 3 of the Tenth Schedule to the Constitution, was introduced in the House on 5 May 2003. The Bill was referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs which had not only approved the suggestions which the Government had placed before the House but also reached a consensus and improved upon some of those suggestions. The suggestions made by the Committee had been accepted by the Government. The Bill, as passed by the Lok Sabha, sought to delete paragraph 3 with regard to the 'split' altogether.

The Minister said that there were also other suggestions which had been made with regard to the non-holding of any Ministerial office, the introduction of a new concept of a remunerative political post, etc. A disqualified member had been debarred from holding any Ministerial Office or a remunerative political post. The Committee on Electoral Reforms (Dinesh Goswami Committee), the Law Commission of India and the National Commission to Review the Working of the Constitution, in their reports, had *inter alia* suggested to have a re-look so far as the provision relating to 'split' was concerned.

The second part of the Amendment sought to restrict the size of the Council of Ministers. In that regard, the Administrative Reforms Com-

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* The Bill, as passed by the Lok Sabha, was laid on the Table on 16 December 2003

mission had earlier suggested that the size of the Council of Ministers should normally be 10 per cent of the legislative strength of the Lower House. He said that the strength of the Council of Ministers would be 15 per cent of the Lower House, and for the smaller States, the minimum size that had been permitted was twelve. He clarified that for those Governments where the size of the Council of Ministers was more than 15 per cent on the day of the coming into force of the constitutional amendment, a period of six months would be given to them to bring the size of their Council of Ministers within the prescribed criteria.

Replying to the debate*, the Minister said that after the amendment was approved and it became a law, the discretion of the Presiding Officers of the Legislative Bodies would become very limited as the provisions relating to the split were deleted altogether. Secondly, after the Supreme Court judgment on the Tenth Schedule to the Constitution, the exercise of power by the adjudicatory authority, *i.e.*, the Speaker or the Chairman, had been subjected to a limited judicial review. Thirdly, the power of the Legislatures to control their functioning under the Constitution could not be taken away and vested in some other authority. As regards the issuance of whips, it was for the political parties to decide as to when whips should be issued, and if there had to be a constraint on that power, that could be done by a resolution or on a direction of the Speaker or the Chairman, but judicial intervention was not required. With regard to the size of the Council of Ministers, the time-limit of six months had been fixed, particularly keeping in mind the position of several North-eastern States. The minimum size of the Council of Ministers of 12 was fixed in order to protect the interests of some of the States which required representation from various communities. He clarified that the Tenth Schedule to the Constitution itself did not apply to the members who were expelled by the political parties, but against such members who voluntarily gave up the membership of a political party.

The motion for consideration of the Bill and Clauses, etc., was adopted and the Bill was passed.

Statutory Resolution seeking disapproval of the Prevention of Terrorism (Amendment) Ordinance, 2003 and the Prevention of Terrorism (Amendment) Bill, 2003: Moving the Statutory Resolution on 18 December

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* Those who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri Pranab Mukherjee, B.P. Apte, Ravula Chandra Sekar Reddy, K. Chandran Pillai, Rama Shanker Kaushik, P.G. Narayanan, Satish Pradhan, Gandhi Azad, Rajiv Ranjan Singh 'Lalan', Harendra Singh Malik, Robert Kharshiing, Rajeev Shukla, Dr. P.C. Alexander, Dr. Karan Singh, Prof. Ram Deo Bhandary and Prof. M. Sankaralingam

2003, Shri Kapil Sibal of the Indian National Congress said that the Government had been resorting to the Ordinance route in respect of important matters of legislation. The Bill could have been discussed with political parties and also sent to the Standing Committee for consultation. The Amendment was sought to be interpreted to vest the Review Committees constituted under the Prevention of Terrorism Act (POTA) with some judicial powers which would affect not only the human rights but also the whole process of the democratic functioning of the State.

Moving the motion for consideration of the Bill, the Deputy Prime Minister and the Minister of Home Affairs, Shri L.K. Advani, stated that he agreed principally with Shri Kapil Sibal that promulgation of Ordinances should be the minimum. It had been said in the past that if the POTA had been misused, there was a Review Committee to give its opinion in that regard. The Amendment sought to make the opinions of the Review Committee binding on the Central Government and the State Government. If there was any difference between the opinions of the Central Review Committee and the State Review Committee in a case, then the viewpoints of the Central Review Committee would prevail over those of the State Review Committee. There was no provision to give judicial powers to the Review Committee. He expressed the hope that those who were against the POTA would support the Amendment Bill as it had reduced the chances of the misuse of the Act.

Replying to the debate*, the Deputy Prime Minister said that the POTA belonged to a rare category of legislation and the Government would endeavour to see that the Act was not abused. In pursuance of that assurance given to Parliament by the Government, this particular amendment had been brought forward. In all the cases, the POTA had been used against terrorists and if the POTA had not been there, the attackers on Parliament would not have been punished the way they ought to have been. The Act recognized the grave threat that the country was facing at the hands of the terrorists and this viewpoint was not only of the Government of India, the Executive and the Parliament but also the highest Judiciary of the country. He clarified that there was no intention of the Government to bypass the Judiciary, and it was

* Those who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri B.P. Singhal, A. Vijayaraghavan, Shahid Siddiqui, R. Shunmugasundaram, Sanjay Nirupam, Bimal Jalan, Harendra Singh Malik, H.K. Javare Gowda, M.P. Abdussamad Samadani, Shankar Roy Chowdhury, Manoj Bhattacharya, Dr. V. Maitreyan, Dr. Chandan Mitra, Prof. Ram Deo Bhandary and Prof. Saif-ud-Din Soz

certainly directing the Executive to correct any fault that it had committed.

The Statutory Resolution was negatived. The motion for consideration of the Bill and Clauses, etc., was adopted and the Bill, as amended, was passed.

Statutory Resolution disapproving the Delimitation (Amendment) Ordinance, 2003 and the Delimitation (Amendment) Bill, 2003: Moving the Statutory Resolution on 16 December 2003, Dr. T. Subarami Reddy of the Indian National Congress said that pursuant to the enactment of the Constitution (Eighty-fourth Amendment) Act, 2001, the Delimitation Act, 2002 was enacted to constitute the Delimitation Commission for giving effect to the aforesaid Constitutional Amendment. The members of Parliament, during the consideration of the Act, had expressed the view that the delimitation of Assembly and parliamentary constituencies should be made as far as possible on the basis of the 2001 census. As regards the inclusion of the nominees of the Governor of the States of Meghalaya, Mizoram and Nagaland in the composition of the Delimitation Commission, the Bill sought to replace the above Ordinance. He wanted to know from the Minister as to when the census of 2001 was going to be completed by the Government so that in the coming General Elections, the total demarcation, delimitation and modification of the constituencies were done.

Moving the motion for consideration of the Bill, Shri P.C. Thomas, Minister of State in the Ministry of Law and Justice, said that consequent upon the Constitution (Eighty-seventh Amendment) Act, 2003, which was passed during the Budget Session, the new Bill had to be introduced as it was the 1991 census which was the basis of delimitation of the constituencies as per the earlier Constitution Amendment Act and the Delimitation Act. Now, the new census which was already being completed would be the basis of the delimitation of the constituencies He clarified that the Ordinance was necessitated as the members had expressed their views during the discussion on the Constitution (Eighty-seventh Amendment) Act that it should be given effect to immediately. The new census would also give more seats to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. He expressed the hope that the new census was supposed to be published by 31 December 2003. Therefore, there was an urgency to promulgate the Ordinance.

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* Those who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri Vayalar Ravi, Kripal Parmar, Ravula Chandra Sekar Reddy, A Vijayaraghavan, Satish Pradhan, Suresh Bhardwaj, C. Apok Jamir, Prof. Ram Deo Bhandary and Prof. M. Sankaralingam

Replying to the debate*, the Minister said that the Bill had been necessitated due to the new census. As regards the increase in the number of Assembly or parliamentary constituencies, these matters had to be considered at a later stage. Similarly, the apprehension of the State Governments which had taken measures for population control successfully that they were going to be at a disadvantage, would be considered seriously at a later stage. He asserted that the electoral reforms were a continuous process which the Government was taking up at each stage.

The motion for consideration of the Bill, Clauses, etc., was adopted and the Bill, as amended, was passed.

C. QUESTION HOUR

During the Session, 5,824 notices of Questions (5,150 Starred and 674 Unstarred) were received. Out of these, 320 Questions were admitted as Starred and 2,317 Questions were admitted as Unstarred. The total number of notices of Questions received in Hindi was 965.

Daily average of Questions: For all the days, the lists of Starred Questions contained 20 Questions each. On an average, 6.50 Questions were orally answered per sitting. The maximum number of Questions orally answered was 14 on 9 December 2003 and the minimum number of Questions orally answered was 3 on 12 December 2003. The List of Unstarred Questions contained 108, 87, 146, 143, 153, 144 and 141 Questions on 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, and 12 December 2003, respectively, and on the rest of the days, it contained 155 Questions each.

Half-an-Hour Discussion: Four notices of Half-an-Hour Discussion were received but none was admitted.

Short Notice Question: Four Short Notice Questions were received but none was admitted.

D. OBITUARY REFERENCES

During the Session, obituary references were made on the passing away of Shri K.M. Khan, a sitting member of the Rajya Sabha, and Sarvashri Lalbuaia, K.R. Malkani, Murasoli Maran, Ramakrishna Hegde, Dr. A. Subha Rao, Dr. D.Y. Pawar, Smt. Pushpalata Das and Smt. Pratibha Singh, all former members. Members stood in silence as a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased.

STATE LEGISLATURES

DELHI LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY*

The Third Delhi Legislative Assembly, which commenced its First Session on 18 December 2003, was adjourned *sine die* on 23 December 2003.

Address by the Lt. Governor: This being the First Session of the Assembly, the Lt. Governor of Delhi, Shri Vijay Kapoor, addressed the House on 22 December 2003. The Motion of Thanks to the Lt. Governor for his Address was moved, discussed and adopted by the House after a reply by the Chief Minister on 23 December 2003.

Election of Speaker and Deputy Speaker: On 19 December 2003, Shri Ajay Maken of the Congress (I) was elected as the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly. Smt. Krishna Tirath of the Congress (I) was elected unanimously as the Deputy Speaker of the House on 23 December 2003.

Obituary references: On 22 December 2003, obituary references were made on the passing away of the former Minister of Industries, Government of Delhi, Shri Deep Chand Bandhu, and a former member of the Metropolitan Council, Shri P.N. Singh.

HIMACHAL PRADESH VIDHAN SABHA**

The Tenth Himachal Pradesh Vidhan Sabha, which commenced its Third Session on 15 December 2003, was adjourned *sine die* on 23 December 2003. The House was later prorogued on the same day. There were seven sittings in all.

Legislative business: During the Session, the following Bills were passed by the House: (i) The Himachal Pradesh Municipal (Third Amendment) Bill, 2003; (ii) The Himachal Pradesh General Sales Tax (Second Amendment) Bill, 2003; (iii) The Himachal Pradesh University (Amendment) Bill, 2003; (iv) The Himachal Pradesh Agricultural Produce Markets (Amendment) Bill, 2003; and (v) The Himachal Pradesh Land Revenue (Amendment) Bill, 2003.

Obituary references: During the Session, obituary references were

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* Material contributed by the Delhi Legislative Assembly Secretariat

** Material contributed by the Himachal Pradesh Vidhan Sabha Secretariat

made on the passing away of Shri Om Chand, a former member of the Legislative Assembly.

KARNATAKA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY*

The Eleventh Karnataka Legislative Assembly, which commenced its Seventh Session on 5 January 2004, was adjourned *sine die* on 16 January 2004. There were nine sittings in all.

Address by the Governor: The Governor of Karnataka addressed the House on 5 January 2004. The Motion of Thanks to the Governor for his Address was moved on 8 January 2004. It was discussed for two days and was adopted by the House on 16 January 2004.

Legislative business: During the Session, five Bills were passed by the House.

Financial business: During the Session, the Appropriation Accounts and the Finance Accounts for the year 2002-2003 were presented in the House.

Obituary references: During the Session, obituary references were made on the passing away of the former Chief Minister of Karnataka, Shri Ramakrishna Hegde, Sarvashri V.K. Ramaiah and Ashok Narayan Patil, both sitting members and a former member of the Lok Sabha, Shri G. Mallikarjunappa. Obituary references were also made on the demise of some former members of the Legislative Assembly and other personalities.

KARNATAKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

The Hundredth Session of the Karnataka Legislative Council, which commenced on 5 January 2004, was concluded on 16 January 2004. There were, in all, nine sittings.

Address by the Governor: The Governor of Karnataka, Shri T.N. Chaturvedi addressed members of both Houses assembled together on 5 January 2004. The Motion of Thanks to the Governor for his Address was discussed for two days and was adopted after the reply by the Chief Minister on 16 January 2004.

Legislative business: During the Session, five Bills were passed by the House.

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* Material contributed by the Karnataka Legislative Assembly Secretariat
** Material contributed by the Karnataka Legislative Council Secretariat

Obituary references: During the Session, obituary references were made on the passing away of the former Chief Minister of Karnataka, Shri Ramakrishna Hegde; sitting members of the Legislative Assembly, Shri Ashok Narayan Patil and Shri Y.K. Ramaiah; former members of the Legislative Council, Shri A.R. Badarinarayan, Shri M.V. Venkatappa and Shri C. Boraiah. Obituary references were also made on the passing away of senior Kannada novelists, Shri A.N. Murthy Rao and Shri K.S. Narasimha Swamy; cine artist, Shri G.V. Iyer; and Veena Uidvan, Shri R.K. Suryanarayana Rao.

The adjourned meetings of the Hundredth Session of the Karnataka Legislative Council commenced on 5 February 2004; the House was adjourned *sine die* on 13 February 2004. There were six sittings in all.

Legislative business: During the Session, twenty-three Bills were passed by the House.

Financial business: During the Session, the Minister of Law and Parliamentary Affairs presented the Budget for the year 2004-2005 on behalf of the Chief Minister.

Obituary references: During the Session, obituary references were made on the passing away of the former Minister and a former member of both Houses, Shri K.N. Nage Gowda; former member of the State Legislative Assembly, Shri M. Muniraju and Prof. M.D. Nanjundaswamy; and cine artist, director and producer, Shri Upadhya Srinivasa Vadiraj.

MAHARASHTRA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY*

The Eleventh Maharashtra Legislative Assembly commenced its Fourth Session on 14 July 2003 and was prorogued on 25 July 2003. There were ten sittings in all.

Legislative business: During the Session, the following Bills were passed by the House: (i) The Maharashtra Municipal Councils, Nagar Panchayats and Industrial Townships (Amendment) Bill, 2000; (ii) The Bombay Motor Vehicles Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2002; (iii) The Maharashtra Zilla Parishads and Panchayat Samitis (Amendment) Bill, 2003; (iv) The Maharashtra Land Revenue Code (Amendment) Bill, 2003; (v) The Bombay Village Panchayats and the Maharashtra Zilla Parishads and Panchayat Samitis (Amendment) Bill, 2003; (vi) The Bombay Entertainments Duty (Amendment) Bill, 2003; (vii) The Bombay Village Panchayats (Second Amendment) Bill, 2003; (viii) The Maharashtra (Second Supplementary)

* Material contributed by the Maharashtra Legislature Secretariat

Appropriation Bill, 2003; (ix) The Maharashtra Legislative Council (Chairman and Deputy Chairman) and Maharashtra Legislative Assembly (Speaker and Deputy Speaker) Salaries and Allowances, the Maharashtra Ministers' Salaries and Allowances, the Maharashtra Legislature Members' Salaries and Allowances, the Maharashtra Legislature Members' Pension and the Leaders of Opposition in Maharashtra Legislature Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 2003; (x) The Maharashtra Legislature Members' Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 2003; (xi) The Bombay Labour Welfare Fund (Amendment) Bill, 2003; and (xii) the Bombay Village Panchayats and the Maharashtra Zilla Parishads and Panchayat Samitis (Second Amendment) Bill, 2003.

Financial business: During the Session, the Finance Minister presented the Supplementary Demands for the year 2003-2004 on 15 July 2003. The discussion and voting on the Supplementary Demands were held on 22 and 23 July 2003. The Maharashtra Appropriation Bill, 2003 was passed on 24 July 2003.

Obituary references: During the Session, obituary references were made on the passing away of some former Ministers and members of the Legislative Assembly.

MAHARASHTRA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL*

The Eleventh Maharashtra Legislative Council commenced its Third Session on 14 July 2003 and was prorogued on 25 July 2003. There were ten sittings in all.

Legislative business: During the Session, the following Bills were passed by the House: (i) The Bombay Gram Panchayats and Maharashtra Zilla Parishads and Panchayat Samitis (Second Amendment) Bill, 2003; (ii) The Maharashtra Municipal Councils, Nagar Panchayats and Industrial Townships (Amendment) Bill, 2000; (iii) The Maharashtra Zilla Parishads and Panchayat Samitis (Amendment) Bill, 2003; (iv) The Bombay Gram Panchayats and Maharashtra Zilla Parishads and Panchayat Samitis (Second Amendment) Bill, 2003; (v) The Bombay Village Panchayats (Second Amendment) Bill, 2003; (vi) The Maharashtra Legislative Council (Chairman and Deputy Chairman) and Maharashtra Legislative Assembly (Speaker and Deputy Speaker) Salaries and Allowances, the Maharashtra Ministers' Salaries and Allowances, the Maharashtra Legislature Members' Salaries and Allowances, the Maharashtra Legislature Members' Pension and the Leaders of Opposition in Maharashtra

* Material contributed by the Maharashtra Legislature Secretariat

Legislature Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 2003; (vii) The Maharashtra Legislature Members Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 2003; and (viii) The Bombay Labour Welfare Fund (Amendment) Bill, 2003.

The following Money Bills, as passed by the Legislative Assembly, were also considered by the House: (i) The Bombay Motor Vehicles Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2002; (ii) The Maharashtra land Revenue Code (Amendment) Bill, 2003; (iii) The Bombay Entertainment Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2003; and (iv) The Maharashtra (Second Supplementary) Appropriation Bill, 2003.

Financial business: On 15 July 2003, the Minister of State for Finance presented the Supplementary Demands for the year 2003-2004. The discussion on the Supplementary Demands were held for two days *i.e.* on 22 and 23 July 2003, respectively.

MEGHALAYA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY*

The Seventh Meghalaya Legislative Assembly, which commenced its Fourth Session on 15 December 2003, was prorogued on 19 December 2003. There were four sittings in all.

Legislative business: During the Session, the Meghalaya Contingency Fund (Amendment) Bill, 2003, was passed by the House.

Financial business: On 15 December 2003, the Deputy Chief Minister and Minister in charge of the Ministry of Finance presented the Appropriation Accounts and Finance Accounts for the year 2002-2003 in the House.

Obituary references: During the Session, obituary references were made on the passing away of the Union Minister, Shri Murasoli Maran; the former Chief Minister of Meghalaya, Shri B.B. Lyngdoh; and Sarvashri T.H. Rangad and Mekenson K. Sangma, both former Ministers of the State.

MIZORAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

The Fifth Mizoram Legislative Assembly, which commenced its First Session on 15 December 2003, was adjourned *sine die* on 17 December 2003.

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* Material contributed by the Meghalaya Legislative Assembly Secretariat
** Material contributed by the Mizoram Legislative Assembly Secretariat

Address by the Governor: The Governor of Mizoram addressed the House on 15 December 2003. The Motion of Thanks to the Governor for his Address was discussed by the House on 17 December 2003.

Election of Speaker: On 15 December 2003, Shri Lalchamliana was elected unanimously as the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly.

ORISSA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY*

The Orissa Legislative Assembly, which commenced its Twelfth Session on 27 October 2003, was adjourned *sine die* on 11 November 2003. The House was later prorogued by the Governor on 14 November 2003. There were twelve sittings in all.

Legislative business: During the Session, six Bills were passed by the House, including the Orissa Urban Police Bill, 2003, which was referred to the Select Committee in the previous session for report.

Obituary references: During the Session, obituary references were made on the passing away of the former Deputy Chief Minister, Shri Basant Kumar Biswal; former Ministers, Sarvashri Anup Singh Deo, Rabi Singh Majhi, Raghunath Hembrum and Antaryami Sahoo; and Shaikh Jaffirulla and Junas Bilung, both former members. Obituary references were also made on the passing away of Shri M. Behera and Shri Jaisingh of the Indian Army.

The Twelfth Orissa Legislative Assembly, which commenced its Thirteenth Session on 5 December 2003, was adjourned *sine die* on 24 December 2003. There were sixteen sittings in all.

Legislative business: During the session, four Bills, including the Orissa Appropriation (No. 3) Bill, 2003, were passed by the House.

Financial business: On 10 December 2003, the Chief Minister who is also holding the charge of Finance presented the First Supplementary Statement of Expenditure for the year 2003-2004. The Demands for Grants on the First Supplementary Statement of Expenditure for the year 2003-2004 relating to the Departments of Panchayati Raj and Water Resources and Agriculture were taken up for discussion. On 18 December 2003, the Orissa Appropriation (No. 3) Bill, 2003 was passed by the House.

Obituary references: During the Session, obituary references were

* Material contributed by the Orissa Legislative Assembly Secretariat

made on the passing away of the former Ministers, Sarvashri Ananta Narayan Singh Deo, and Krupasindhu Bhoi; and Achutananda Mohanty, B.N. Baral, Ranga Ballav Amat and Ramesh Chandra Panda, all former members of the Legislative Assembly. Obituary references were also made on the passing away of Shri C.B. Biswal of the Indian Army.

The Orissa Legislative Assembly, which again met at its Thirteenth Session on 3 February 2004, was adjourned *sine die* on 5 February 2004. Later, the Governor dissolved the House on 6 February 2004. There were three sittings in all.

Financial business: On 3 February 2004, the Chief Minister, who also holds the charge of Finance, presented the Annual Budget Estimates for the year 2004-2005 and moved the Motion for Vote-on-Account. The discussion on the motion was held for a day. The Orissa Appropriation (Vote-on-Account) Bill, 2004 was passed by the House on 5 February 2004.

Obituary references: During the Session, obituary references were made on the passing away of Sarvashri Jami Subarao Prusty and Ishwar Nayak, both former members of the Legislative Assembly, and Babrubahan Pradhan of the Indian Army.

TRIPURA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY*

The Ninth Tripura Legislative Assembly, which commenced its Third Session on 24 December 2003, was adjourned *sine die* on 30 December 2003. The House was later prorogued on 30 January 2004. There were four sittings in all.

Legislative business: During the Session, the following Bills were passed by the House: (i) The Tripura Professions, Trades, Callings and Employment Taxation (Second Amendment) Bill, 2003; (ii) The Tripura Panchayats (Third Amendment) Bill, 2003; and (iii) The Tripura Motor Vehicles Tax (Sixth Amendment) Bill, 2003.

Obituary references: During the Session, obituary references were made on the passing away of Sarvashri Yadab Majumdar, Ram Kumar Deb Barma and Manoranjan Majumdar, all former members of the Tripura Legislative Assembly. A condolence motion was also adopted on the death of thousands of people in the severe earthquake which hit the south-east Iranian town of Bam on 26 December 2003.

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* Material contributed by the Tripura Legislative Assembly Secretariat

WEST BENGAL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY*

The Thirteenth West Bengal Legislative Assembly, which commenced its Sixth Session on 1 December 2003, was adjourned *sine die* on 9 December 2003. The House was later prorogued on 10 December 2003. There were eight sittings in all.

Legislative business: During the Session, eleven Bills were passed by the House.

Financial business: During the Session, the Excess Expenditure for the years 1985-86 to 1994-95 were discussed. The Demands for Grants for the same were voted on 3 and 4 December 2003, respectively.

Motion of No-confidence: During the Session, the Leader of Opposition gave a notice of No-confidence Motion against the Council of Ministers. Leave was granted on 2 December 2003. The motion was discussed and defeated by division on 8 December 2003.

Obituary references: During the Session, obituary references were made on the passing away of the former member of Parliament, Shri Mohammad Ali; and Sarvashri Dinabandhu Majhi, Suchand Soren, Tuhin Samanta, Lal Bahadur Singh, Amiya Bhusan Banerjee, Durgadas Bauri, Abul Hassan and Dr. Ranen Sen, all former members of the Legislative Assembly and some other renowned personalities.

* Material contributed by the West Bengal Legislative Assembly Secretariat

6

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APPENDIX I

STATEMENT SHOWING THE WORK TRANSACTED DURING THE FOURTEENTH SESSION OF THE THIRTEENTH LOK SABHA

1.	PERIOD OF THE SESSION	2 to 23 December 2003
2.	NUMBER OF SITTINGS HELD	16
3.	TOTAL NUMBER OF SITTING HOURS	95 hours and 6 minutes
4.	NUMBER OF DIVISIONS HELD	11
5.	GOVERNMENT BILLS	
	(i) Pending at the commencement of the Session	42
	(ii) Introduced	18
	(iii) Laid on the Table as passed by Rajya Sabha	7
	(iv) Returned by the Rajya Sabha with any amendment/ recommendation and laid on the Table of the House	1
	(v) Reported by Standing Committees	15
	(vi) Discussed	22
	(vii) Passed	21
	(viii) Withdrawn	2
	(ix) Returned by Rajya Sabha without any recommendation	2
	(x) Pending at the end of the Session	45
6.	PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS	
	(i) Pending at the commencement of the Session	263
	(ii) Introduced	3
	(iii) Discussed	3
	(iv) Withdrawn	3
	(v) Removed from the Register of Pending Bills	2
	(vi) Pending at the end of the Session	261
7.	NUMBER OF DISCUSSIONS HELD UNDER RULE 184	
	(i) Notices received	228
	(ii) Admitted	69
	(iii) Discussed	Nil
8.	NUMBER OF MATTERS RAISED UNDER RULE 377	174
9.	NUMBER OF MATTERS RAISED ON URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE DURING ZERO HOUR	37
10.	NUMBER OF DISCUSSIONS HELD UNDER RULE 193 (Matters of Urgent Public Importance)	
	(i) Notices received	158
	(ii) Admitted	5
	(iii) Discussions held	5
11.	NUMBER OF STATEMENTS MADE UNDER RULE 197 (Calling Attention of Matters of Urgent Public Importance)	6
12.	STATEMENTS MADE BY MINISTERS UNDER RULE 372	8

13.	STATUTORY RESOLUTIONS	
	(i) Notices received	50
	(ii) Admitted	7*
	(iii) Moved	7
	(iv) Adopted	Nil
	(v) Negatived	5
	(vi) Withdrawn	1
14.	RESOLUTION PLACED BEFORE THE HOUSE BY THE SPEAKER, LOK SABHA	1
15.	GOVERNMENT RESOLUTIONS	
	(i) Notices received	2
	(ii) Admitted	2
	(iii) Moved	1
	(iv) Adopted	1
16.	PRIVATE MEMBERS' RESOLUTIONS	
	(i) Received	3
	(ii) Admitted	3
	(iii) Discussed	1
	(iv) Part-discussed	1
17.	NUMBER OF ADJOURNMENT MOTIONS	
	(i) Total number of Notices received	201
	(ii) Brought before the House	96
	(iii) Admitted	Nil
	(iv) Consent withheld by Speaker, Lok Sabha outside the House	105
18.	NUMBER OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE CONSTITUTED, IF ANY, DURING THE SESSION	1
19.	TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITORS' PASSES ISSUED DURING THE SESSION	9,884
20.	MAXIMUM NUMBER OF VISITORS' PASSES ISSUED ON ANY SINGLE DAY AND THE DATE ON WHICH ISSUED	1,237 on 18 December 2003
21.	TOTAL NUMBER OF QUESTIONS ADMITTED	
	(i) Starred	320
	(ii) Unstarred	3,166
	(iii) Short Notice Questions	2
	(iv) Half-an-Hour discussions	1
22.	NUMBER OF MEMBERS GRANTED LEAVE OF ABSENCE	5
23.	PETITIONS PRESENTED	1
24.	NUMBER OF NEW MEMBERS SHOWN IN, WITH DATE	(One, on 2 December 2003 and another, on 3 December 2003)
25.	NUMBER OF PRIVILEGE MOTIONS	
	(i) Notices received	4
	(ii) Brought before the House	1
	(iii) Consent withheld by Speaker	Nil
	(iv) Observation made by Speaker	1

* The House did not proceed further w.r.t. one statutory resolution which was moved along with a Bill.

26. WORKING OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

Sl. No.	Name of the Committee	No. of sittings held during the period 1 october to 31 December 2003	No. of Reports presented
1	2	3	4
i)	Business Advisory Committee	4	3
ii)	Committee on Absence of Members	1	1
iii)	Committee on Public Undertakings	3	2 (Original) 4 (Study Tour) 1 (Action Taken)
iv)	Committee on Papers Laid on the Table	3	3
v)	Committee on Petitions	5	5
vi)	Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions	2	2
vii)	Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes	3	2 (Original) 2 (Tour Reports)
viii)	Committee of Privileges	—	—
ix)	Committee on Government Assurances	6	1
x)	Committee on Subordinate Legislation	4	4
xi)	Estimates Committee	2	—
xii)	General Purposes Committee	—	—
xiii)	House Committee		
	a) Accommodation Sub-Committee	—	—
	b) Sub-Committee on Amenities	—	—
xiv)	Public Accounts Committee	8	6 (Original) 4 (Action Taken)
xv)	Railway Convention Committee	2	--
xvi)	Rules Committee	—	—
xvii)	Committee on Ethics	—	—
xviii)	Committee on the Empowerment of women	3	2 (Action Taken)
xix)	Committee on Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS)	2	—
	JOINT/SELECT COMMITTEES		
i)	Joint Committee on Offices of Profit	2	—
	DEPARTMENTALLY RELATED STANDING COMMITTEES		
i)	Committee on Agriculture	6	4
ii)	Committee on Information Technology	—	—
iii)	Committee on Defence	2	1
iv)	Committee on Energy	6	1
v)	Committee on External Affairs	6	2
vi)	Committee on Finance	6	8
vii)	Committee on Food, Civil Supplies and Public Distribution	—	—
viii)	Committee on Labour and Welfare	4	5
ix)	Committee on Petroleum and Chemicals	4	3
x)	Committee on Railways	2	2 (Orignal) 1 (Statement)
xi)	Committee on Urban and Rural Development	8	2

APPENDIX II

STATEMENT SHOWING THE WORK TRANSACTED DURING THE TWO HUNDREDTH SESSION OF THE RAJYA SABHA

1.	PERIOD OF THE SESSION	2 to 23 December 2003 and 30 January to 5 February 2004
2.	NUMBER OF SITTINGS HELD	20
3.	TOTAL NUMBER OF SITTING HOURS	92 hours and 52 minutes
4.	NUMBER OF DIVISIONS HELD	13
5.	GOVERNMENT BILLS	
	(i) Pending at the commencement of the Session	29
	(ii) Introduced	09
	(iii) Laid on the Table as passed by the Lok Sabha	19
	(iv) Returned by the Lok Sabha with any amendment	2
	(v) Referred to Select Committee by the Rajya Sabha	Nil
	(vi) Referred to Joint Committee by the Rajya Sabha	Nil
	(vii) Referred to the Department-related Standing Committees	6
	(viii) Reported by Select Committee	Nil
	(ix) Reported by Joint Committee	Nil
	(x) Reported by the Department-related Standing Committees	14
	(xi) Discussed	26
	(xii) Passed	26
	(xiii) Withdrawn	Nil
	(xiv) Negatived	Nil
	(xv) Part-discussed	Nil
	(xvi) Returned by the Rajya Sabha without any recommendation	8
	(xvii) Discussion postponed	Nil
	(xviii) Pending at the end of the Session	30
6.	PRIVATE MEMBERS BILLS	
	(i) Pending at the commencement of the Session	162
	(ii) Introduced	22
	(iii) Laid on the Table as passed by the Lok Sabha	Nil
	(iv) Returned by the Lok Sabha with any amendment and laid on the Table	Nil
	(v) Reported by Joint Committee	Nil
	(vi) Discussed	3
	(vii) Withdrawn	4

(viii) Passed	Nil
(ix) Negatived	Nil
(x) Circulated for eliciting opinion	Nil
(xi) Part-discussed	Nil
(xii) Discussion postponed	Nil
(xiii) Motion for circulation of Bill negatived	Nil
(xiv) Referred to Select Committee	Nil
(xv) Lapsed due to retirement/death of Member-in-charge of the Bill	Nil
(xvi) Pending at the end of the Session	179
7. NUMBER OF DISCUSSIONS HELD UNDER RULE 176 (Matters of urgent public importance)	
(i) Notices received	63
(ii) Admitted	11
(iii) Discussions held	4
NUMBER OF STATEMENTS MADE UNDER RULE 180 (Calling attention to matters of urgent public importance)	
8. STATEMENT MADE BY MINISTERS	1
9. HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSIONS HELD	Nil
10. STATUTORY RESOLUTIONS	
(i) Notices received	25
(ii) Admitted	25
(iii) Moved	5
(iv) Adopted	Nil
(v) Negatived	3
(vi) Withdrawn	2
11. GOVERNMENT RESOLUTIONS	
(i) Notices received	Nil
(ii) Admitted	Nil
(iii) Moved	–
(iv) Adopted	–
12. PRIVATE MEMBERS' RESOLUTIONS	
(i) Received	6
(ii) Admitted	6
(iii) Discussed	1
(iv) Withdrawn	1
(vi) Negatived	Nil
(vii) Adopted	Nil
(vii) Part-discussed	Nil
(viii) Discussion postponed	Nil
13. GOVERNMENT MOTIONS	
(i) Notices received	2
(ii) Admitted	2
(iii) Moved and discussed	1

(iv) Adopted	Nil
(v) Part-discussed	Nil
14. PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS	
(i) Received	128
(ii) Admitted	120
(iii) Moved	Nil
(iv) Adopted	Nil
(v) Part-discussed	Nil
(vi) Negatived	Nil
(vii) Withdrawn	Nil
15. MOTIONS REGARDING MODIFICATION OF STATUTORY RULE	
(i) Received	–
(ii) Admitted	–
(iii) Moved	–
(iv) Adopted	–
(v) Negatived	–
(vi) Withdrawn	–
(vii) Part-discussed	–
(viii) Lapsed	–
16. NUMBER, NAME AND DATE OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE CREATED, IF ANY	–
17. TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITORS' PASSES ISSUED	931
18. TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITORS	2,512
19. MAXIMUM NUMBER OF VISITORS' PASSES ISSUED ON ANY SINGLE DAY, AND DATE ON WHICH ISSUED	89 (on 18.12.2003)
20. MAXIMUM NUMBER OF VISITORS ON ANY SINGLE DAY AND DATE	304 (on 23.12.2003)
21. TOTAL NUMBER OF QUESTIONS ADMITTED	
(i) Starred	320
(ii) Unstarred	2,317
(iii) Short-Notice Questions	Nil
22. DISCUSSIONS ON THE WORKING OF THE MINISTRIES	Nil
23. WORKING OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES	

	Name of the Committee	No. of meetings held during the period 1 October to 31 December 2003	No. of Reports presented
(i)	Business Advisory Committee	4	Nil
(ii)	Committee on Subordinate Legislation	3	2
(iii)	Committee on Petitions	2	Nil
(iv)	Committee of Privileges	Nil	Nil
(v)	Committee on Rules	Nil	Nil

(vi)	Committee on Government Assurances	2	1
(vii)	Committee on Papers Laid on the Table	2	4
(viii)	General Purposes Committee	Nil	Nil
(ix)	House Committee	2	1
Department-related Committees:			
(x)	Commerce	3	Nil
(xi)	Home Affairs	13	6
(xii)	Human Resource Development	1	6
(xiii)	Industry	1	15
(xiv)	Science and Technology, Environment and Forests	2	1
(xv)	Transport, Tourism and Culture	4	3
Other Committees			
(xvi)	Ethics Committee	1	Nil
(xvii)	Committee on Provision of Computers to Members of Rajya Sabha	1	Nil
(xviii)	Committee on Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme	Nil	Nil
(xix)	Joint Parliamentary Committee on the Functioning of Wakf Boards	1	2

24. NUMBER OF MEMBERS GRANTED LEAVE OF ABSENCE 3

25. PETITIONS PRESENTED 2

26. NAME OF NEW MEMBERS SWORN IN WITH DATES

S.No.	Name of Members sworn in	Party Affiliation	Date on which sworn in
1	2	3	4
1.	Shrimati Kamla Manhar	I.N.C	16.10.2003
2.	Shri V.Narayanasamy	I.N.C	-do-
3	Shri Vidya Nivas Misra	Nominated	-do-
4	Shrimati Hema Malini	-do-	-do-
5	Dr. K. Kasturirangan	-do-	28.11.2003
6	Dr. Narayan Singh Manaklao	-do-	2.12.2003
7	Dr. Chandan Mitra	-do-	-do-

* Five Members (shown above at Sl. Nos. 1-5) made and subscribed their oath/affirmation in the Chamber of Hon'ble Chairman during the inter-session period. The two nominated Members (shown above at Sl. Nos. 6 & 7) made and subscribed their oath/affirmation in the House, *i.e.* the Rajya Sabha Chamber on the first day of 200th Session.

27. OBITUARY REFERENCES

S.No.	Name	Sitting Member/ Ex-Member
1.	Shri K.M. Khan	Sitting Member
2.	Shri Lalbuaia	Ex-Member
3.	Dr. A. Subha Rao	-do-
4.	Shri K.R. Malkani	-do-
5.	Shri Murasoli Maran (Sitting Member of Lok Sabha and Union Cabinet Minister)	-do-
6.	Shrimati Pushpalata Das	-do-
7.	Dr. D.Y. Pawar	-do-
8.	Shrimati Pratibha Singh	-do-
9.	Shri Ramakrishna Hegde	-do-

APPENDIX III

STATEMENT SHOWING THE ACTIVITIES OF THE LEGISLATURES OF THE STATES AND UNION TERRITORIES DURING THE PERIOD 1 OCTOBER TO 31 DECEMBER 2003

Legislature	Duration	Sittings	Govt. Bills	Private Bills	Starred Questions	Unstarred Questions	Short Notice Questions
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
STATES							
Andhra Pradesh L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arunachal Pradesh L.A.	16.2.2004 to 27.2.2004	3	3(3)	—	26(26)	28(26)	—
Assam L.A.	18.12.2003 to 23.12.2003	5	8	—	189(100)	59(143)(a)	23(19)
Bihar L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bihar L.C.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chhattisgarh L.A.	22.12.2003 to 24.12.2003	3	—	—	—	—	—
Delhi L.A.	18.12.2003 to 23.12.2003	4	—	—	—	—	—
Goa L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gujarat L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	221(121)	—
Haryana L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Himachal Pradesh L.A.	15.12.2003 to 23.12.2003	7	5(5)	—	303(176)	44(30)	—
Jammu & Kashmir L.A.	10.12.2003 to 18.12.2003	7	8(7)	4	181(30)	147	—
Jammu & Kashmir L.C.	10.12.2003 to 18.12.2003	8	8(8)	—	103(78)	51(47)	—
Jharkhand L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Karnataka L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Karnataka L.C.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kerala L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Madhya Pradesh L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maharashtra L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maharashtra L.C.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Manipur L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meghalaya L.A.	15.12.2003 to 19.12.2003	4	1(1)	—	71	11	—
Mizoram L.A.	15.12.2003 to 28.12.2003	3	—	—	—	—	—
Nagaland L.A.	16.12.2003 to 18.12.2003	2	1(1)	—	23(23)	8(8)	—
Orissa L.A.	12.10.2003 to 10.11.2003 and 5.12.2003 to 24.12.2003	28	11(10)	—	3,160(2,210)	2,699(3,383)(a)	23(2)
Punjab L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rajasthan L.A.	15.1.2004 to 23.1.2004 and 4.2.2004 to 5.2.2004	9	3(3)	—	204(190)	296(284)	—
Sikkim L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tamil Nadu L.A.	3.11.2003 to 7.11.2003	5	16(14)	—	(498)	(980)	(3)
Tripura L.A.	24.12.2003 to 30.12.2003	4	4(3)	—	311(206)	230(243)(a)	1(1)
Uttaranchal L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uttar Pradesh L.A.	10.11.2003 to 10.12.2003	7	7(9)	—	788(106)	226(751)(a)	332(19)
Uttar Pradesh L.C.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
West Bengal L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
UNION TERRITORIES							
Pondicherry L.A.	27.10.2003	1	1(1)	—	—	—	—

* Information received from the State/Union territory Legislature contained NIL report

** Information not received from the State/Union territory Legislature

Notes : a) Including Starred Questions and Short Notices admitted as Unstarred

APPENDIX III (Contd.)

COMMITTEES AT WORK/NUMBER OF SITTINGS HELD AND NUMBER OF REPORTS PRESENTED DURING THE PERIOD 1 OCTOBER TO 31 DECEMBER 2003

	Business Advisory Committee	Committee on Govt. Assurances	Committee on Petitions	Committee on Private Members Bills and Resolutions	Committe of Privileges	Committee on Public Undertakings	Committee on Subordinate Legislation	Committee on the Welfare of SCs and STs	Estimates Committee	General Purposes Committee	House/Accommodation Committee	Library Committee	Public Accounts Committee	Rules Committee	Joint/Select Committee	Other Committees
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
STATES																
Andhra Pradesh L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arunachal Pradesh L.A.	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	4	—	—	—

	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Assam L.A.	2	3	3(1)	—	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	6	1(1)	—	3(a)
Bihar L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bihar L.C.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chhattisgarh L.A.	1(1)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Delhi L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1(b)
Goa L.A.	—	2	—	—	1	2(1)	1	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	—
Gujarat L.A.	—	4	—	1	1	11	2	12	4	—	2	1	13	1	—	13(c)
Haryana L.A.	—	16	—	—	16	20	14	14	18	—	19	14	13	—	—	—
Himachal Pradesh LA.	1(1)	—	—	—	6(1)	11(8)	4	9(7)	10(6)	—	—	—	10(26)	—	—	23(22)(d)
Jammu & Kashmir LA.	1(1)	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	3	—	—	—
Jammu & Kashmir LC.	1(1)	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	1	—	—
Jharkhand L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Karnataka L.A.	—	11	11(1)	—	8	12	6	7	7	—	8	5	15	—	—	23(e)
Karnataka L.C.	—	9	7	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—
Kerala L.A.	—	9	6	9	3	12	10	10	12	—	9	9	13	—	—	75(f)
Madhya Pradesh LA.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maharashtra L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maharashtra L.C.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Manipur L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meghalaya L.A.	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	2(g)
Mizoram L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Nagaland L.A.*	—	1(1)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	(1)	—	—	—
Orissa L.A.	—	—	7	—	(3)	3	5	3	3	—	—	4	10(4)	—	5(2)	18(1)(h)
Punjab L.A.	—	18	15	—	15	14	9	24	15	—	3	13	18	—	—	18(i)

	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Rajasthan L.A.	2(2)	12	10	—	11(2)	4	9	5	20	—	—	9	7	—	—	23(j)
Sikkim L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tamil Nadu L.A.	1	2(1)	10(10)	—	4(2)	5(3)	1(4)	—	11	—	—	1	5(14)	—	—	1(8)(k)
Tripura L.A.	1	3	1	—	—	4(1)	—	4	1	—	1	—	4(1)	—	—	—
Uttaranchal L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uttar Pradesh L.A.	5(5)	12	4	—	—	7	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uttar Pradesh L.C.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
West Bengal L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
UNION TERRITORY																
Pondicherry L.A.	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	25	—	—	—	26(1)	—	—	—

* Information received from the State/Union territory Legislatures contained NIL report

** Information not received from the State/Union territory Legislatures

(a) Committee on Welfare of Women and Children-3

(b) House Committee on Issues relating to Property Tax-1

(c) Members Pay and Allowance Rules Committee-2; Panchayati Raj Committee-8; and Welfare of Socially and Educationally Backward Classes Committee-3

(d) Public Administration Committee-6(6); Human Development Committee-5(8); General Development Committee-6(2); and Rural Planning Committee-6(6)

(e) Committee on Papers to be Laid on the Table-10; Women and Children Welfare Committee-7; and Backward Classes and Minorities Welfare Committee-6

(f) Committee on the Welfare of Women, Children and Physically Handicapped-10; Committee on Environment-9; Committee on the Welfare of Backward Class Communities-9; Committee on Papers Laid on the Table-7; Committee on Local Fund Accounts-9; Committee on Official Language-8; and Subject Committees-23

(g) Committee on Empowerment of Women-2

(h) Members' Amenities Committee-4; Committee on Papers Laid on the Table-4; House Committee on Beverage Corporation of Orissa Limited-3(1); House Committee on Tangarapara Chromite Mines-5; and House Committee on Co-operatives-2

(i) Committee on Papers Laid/to be Laid on the Table-13; and Questions and References Committee-5

(j) Committee on Welfare of Woman and Child-5; Questions and References Committee-9; and Committee on Welfare of Backward Classes 9

(k) Committee on Papers Laid on the Table-1(8)

APPENDIX IV

LIST OF BILLS PASSED BY THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT AND ASSENTED TO BY THE PRESIDENT DURING THE PERIOD

1 OCTOBER TO 31 DECEMBER 2003

Sl. No.	Title of the Bill	Date of Assent
1	2	3
1.	The Marriage Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2003	23.12.2003
2.	The Railways (Second Amendment) Bill, 2003	23.12.2003
3.	The Railway Protection Force (Amendment) Bill, 2003	23.12.2003
4.	The Industrial Development Bank (Transfer of Undertaking and Repeal) Bill, 2003	30.12.2003
5.	The Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2003	30.12.2003
6.	The Appropriation (No. 5) Bill, 2003	30.12.2003
7.	The Railways (Amendment) Bill, 2003	30.12.2003
8.	The Electricity (Amendment) Bill, 2003	30.12.2003
9.	The Indian Medicine Central Council (Amendment) Bill, 2003	30.12.2003
10.	The Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Bill, 2003	30.12.2003

APPENDIX V

LIST OF BILLS PASSED BY THE LEGISLATURES OF THE STATES AND THE UNION TERRITORIES DURING THE PERIOD

1 OCTOBER TO 31 DECEMBER 2003

HIMACHAL PRADESH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Himachal Pradesh University (Amendment) Bill, 2003*
2. The Himachal Pradesh Municipal (Third Amendment) Bill, 2003*
3. The Himachal Pradesh Land Revenue (Amendment) Bill, 2003*
4. The Himachal Pradesh Agricultural Produce Markets (Amendment) Bill, 2003*
5. The Himachal Pradesh General Sales Tax (Second Amendment) Bill, 2003*

JAMMU AND KASHMIR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Jammu and Kashmir Right to Information Bill, 2003

JAMMU AND KASHMIR LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

1. The Jammu and Kashmir Motor Spirit and Diesel Oil (Taxation of Sales) Bill, 2003
2. The Jammu and Kashmir Panchayati Raj (Second Amendment) Bill, 2003
3. The Transfer of Property (Second Amendment) Bill, 2003
4. The Jammu and Kashmir Electricity (Supply) (Repeal) Bill, 2003
5. The Jammu and Kashmir Specified Wakf and Wakfs Properties (Management and Regulation) Bill, 2003
6. The Jammu and Kashmir Right to Information Bill, 2003
7. The Jammu and Kashmir Co-operative Societies (Amendment) Bill, 2003
8. The Jammu and Kashmir Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Bill, 2003

MEGHALAYA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Contingency Fund of Meghalaya (Amendment) Bill, 2003

NAGALAND LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Naga Hospital Authority Bill, 2003

ORISSA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Orissa Mining and Geology Service (Validation of Appointment) Bill, 2003
2. The Co-operative Societies (Amendment) Bill, 2003
3. The Orissa Forest Development (Tax on Sale of Forest Produce by Government of Orissa Forest Development Corporation Bill, 2003
4. The Orissa Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Bill, 2003
5. The Orissa Technical Education and Training Service (Validation of Appointment of Lecturers) Bill, 2003

6. The Orissa Grama Panchayat (Amendment) Bill, 2003
7. The Orissa Urban Police Bill, 2003*
8. The Indian Stamp (Orissa Amendment) Bill, 2003*
9. The Orissa Entry Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2003
10. The Orissa Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2003

RAJASTHAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Rajasthan Municipalities (Amendment) Bill, 2004*
2. The Rajasthan Appropriation (No.1) Bill, 2004*
3. The Rajasthan Appropriation (Vote on Account) (No.2) Bill, 2004*

TAMIL NADU LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Tamil Nadu Manual Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Work) Amendment Bill, 2003
2. The Tamil Nadu Municipal Laws (Second Amendment) Bill, 2003
3. The Tamil Nadu Panchayats (Second Amendment) Bill, 2003
4. The Tamil Nadu Prohibition (Amendment) Bill, 2003
5. The Tamil Nadu Co-operative Societies (Appointment of Special Officers) Amendment Bill, 2003
6. The Tamil Nadu Panchayats (Third Amendment) Bill, 2003
7. The Tamil Nadu Essential Services Maintenance (Amendment) Bill, 2003
8. The Tamil Nadu Prohibition of Charging Exorbitant Interest Bill, 2003
9. The Tamil Nadu Additional Assessment and Additional Water-Cess (Amendment) Bill, 2003
10. The Tamil Nadu Civil Courts and the Chennai City Civil Courts (Amendment) Bill, 2003
11. The Tamil Nadu General Sales Tax (Second Amendment) Bill, 2003
12. The Chennai City Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Bill, 2003
13. The Tamil Nadu Panchayats (Fourth Amendment) Bill, 2003
14. The Tamil Nadu Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 2003

TRIPURA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Tripura Professions, Trades, Callings and Employment Taxation (Second Amendment) Bill, 2003
2. The Tripura Panchayats (Third Amendment) Bill, 2003
3. The Tripura Motor Vehicles Tax (Sixth Amendment) Bill, 2003

UTTAR PRADESH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Uttar Pradesh Co-operative Societies (Amendment) Bill, 2003
2. The Code of Civil Procedure (Uttar Pradesh Amendment) Bill, 2003
3. The Uttar Pradesh Advocates Welfare Fund (Amendment) Bill, 2003
4. The Uttar Pradesh Trade Tax (Amendment) (Second) Bill, 2003
5. The Uttar Pradesh Public Service (Tribunal) (Amendment) Bill, 2003

6. The Uttar Pradesh Chhatrapati Shahuji Maharaj Medical University (Second Amendment) Bill, 2003
7. The Uttar Pradesh State Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2003
8. The Uttar Pradesh Co-operative Societies (Second Amendment) Bill, 2003
9. The Uttar Pradesh Appropriation Bill, 2003

PONDICHERRY LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Pondicherry Board of Secondary and Higher Secondary Education Bill, 2003

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* Bills awaiting assent

APPENDIX VI

ORDINANCES PROMULGATED BY THE UNION AND STATE GOVERNMENTS DURING THE PERIOD 1 OCTOBER TO 31 DECEMBER 2003

Sl. No.	Title of Ordinance	Date of Promulgation	Date on which laid before the House	Date of Cessation	Remarks
			UNION GOVERNMENT		
1.	The National Tax Tribunal Ordinance, 2003	16.10.2003	3.12.2003	13.1.2004	Not replaced by an Act of Parliament
2.	The Prevention of Terrorism (Amendment) Ordinance, 2003	27.10.2003	3.12.2003	13.1.2004	Replaced by an Act of Parliament
3.	The Representation of the People (Amendment) Ordinance, 2003	29.10.2003	3.12.2003	13.1.2004	Replaced by an Act of Parliament
4.	The Delimitation (Amendment) Ordinance, 2003	31.10.2003	3.12.2003	13.1.2004	Replaced by an Act of Parliament
5.	The Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Ordinance, 2003	5.11.2003	3.12.2003	13.1.2004	Replaced by an Act of Parliament
6.	The Indian Medicine Central Council (Amendment) Ordinance, 2003	7.11.2003	3.12.2003	13.1.2004	Replaced by an Act of Parliament

		ASSAM			
1.	The Guwahati Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Ordinance, 2003	—	18.12.2003	—	Replaced by Legislation
2.	The Assam Municipal (Amendment) Ordinance, 2003	—	18.12.2003	—	Replaced by Legislation
3.	The Assam Motor Vehicles and Taxation (Amendment) Ordinance, 2003	—	18.12.2003	—	Replaced by Legislation
		CHHATTISGARH			
1.	The Indian Stamp (Chhattisgarh Amendment) Ordinance, 2003	10.10.2003	24.12.2003	—	—
2.	The Chhattisgarh Rajya Prashasnik Adhikaran Lambit Evam Nirakrit Avedano Ka Antaran) Adhyadesh, 2003	20.11.2003	24.12.2003	—	—
		GUJARAT			
1.	The Bombay Court-fees (Gujarat Amendment) Ordinance, 2003	30.10.2003	—	—	—
		HIMACHAL PRADESH			
1.	The Himachal Pradesh Municipal (Third Amendment) Ordinance, 2003	26.7.2003	15.12.2003	—	Replaced by Legislation
2.	The Himachal Pradesh General Sales Tax (Second Amendment) Ordinance, 2003	20.8.2003	15.12.2003	—	Replaced by Legislation

3.	The Himachal Pradesh University (Amendment) Ordinance, 2003	22.9.2003	15.12.2003	—	Replaced by Legislation
4.	The Himachal Pradesh Agricultural Produce Markets (Amendment) Ordinance, 2003	24.11.2003	15.12.2003	—	Replaced by Legislation
		JAMMU AND KASHMIR			
1.	The Jammu and Kashmir Specified Wakfs and Specified Wakf Properties (Management and Regulation) Ordinance, 2003	11.12.2003	—	—	Replaced by Legislation
2.	The Transfer of Property (Amendment) Ordinance, 2003	11.12.2003	—	—	Replaced by Legislation
3.	The Transfer of Property (Second Amendment) Ordinance, 2003	11.12.2003	—	—	Replaced by Legislation
4.	The Jammu and Kashmir Panchayati Raj (Amendment) Ordinance, 2003	11.12.2003	—	—	Replaced by Legislation
5.	The Jammu and Kashmir Motor Spirit and Diesel Oil (Taxation of Sales) (Amendment) Ordinance, 2003	11.12.2003	—	—	Replaced by Legislation
6.	The Jammu and Kashmir Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Ordinance, 2003	12.12.2003	—	—	Replaced by Legislation

7.	The Jammu and Kashmir Cooperative Societies (Amendment) Ordinance, 2003	12.12.2003	—	—	Replaced by Legislation
			KERALA		
1.	The Kerala Stamp (Amendment) Ordinance, 2003	1.12.2003	19.1.2004	—	Replaced by Legislation
			MEGHALAYA		
1.	The Contingency Fund of Meghalaya (Amendment) Ordinance, 2003	27.1.2003	15.12.2003	—	Replaced by Legislation
			ORISSA		
1.	The Orissa Co-operative Societies (Amendment) Bill, 2003	2.7.2003	27.10.2003	—	Replaced by Legislation
2.	The Orissa Forest Development (Tax on Sale of Forest Produce by Government of Orissa Development Corporation) Ordinance, 2003	15.7.2003	27.10.2003	—	Replaced by Legislation
3.	The Orissa Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Ordinance, 2003	27.7.2003	27.10.2003	—	Replaced by Legislation
4.	The Orissa Contingency Fund (Amendment) Ordinance, 2003	12.9.2003	27.10.2003	—	Replaced by Legislation
			RAJASTHAN		
1.	The Rajasthan State Commission for Minorities (Amendment) Ordinance, 2003	7.9.2003	—	19.1.2004	—

2.	The Rajasthan Municipalities (Second Amendment) Ordinance, 2003	1.10.2003	—	19.1.2004	Replaced by Legislation
			TAMIL NADU		
1.	The Tamil Nadu Panchayats (Third Amendment) Ordinance, 2003	17.10.2003	3.11.2003	—	Replaced by Legislation
2.	The Tamil Nadu Prohibition (Amendment) Ordinance, 2003	26.10.2003	3.11.2003	—	Replaced by Legislation
3.	The Chennai City Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Ordinance, 2003	29.10.2003	3.11.2003	—	Replaced by Legislation
			UTTAR PRADESH		
1.	The Uttar Pradesh Co-operative Societies (Amendment) (Second) Ordinance, 2003	13.10.2003	10.11.2003	—	Replaced by Legislation
2.	The Uttar Pradesh Co-operative Societies (Second Amendment) (Second) Ordinance, 2003	13.10.2003	10.11.2003	—	Replaced by Legislation
3.	The Uttar Pradesh Advocates Welfare Fund (Amendment) (Second) Ordinance, 2003	13.10.2003	10.11.2003	—	Replaced by Legislation
4.	The Uttar Pradesh Trade Tax (Amendment) (Second) Ordinance, 2003	13.10.2003	10.11.2003	—	Replaced by Legislation

5.	The Code of Civil Procedure (Uttar Pradesh Amendment) (Second) Ordinance, 2003	13.10.2003	10.11.2003	—	Replaced by Legislation
6.	The Uttar Pradesh Apartments (Promotion of Construction Ownership and Maintenance) (Third) Ordinance, 2003	15.10.2003	10.11.2003	21.12.2003	—
7.	The Uttar Pradesh State Universities (Amendment) (Second) Ordinance, 2003	15.10.2003	10.11.2003	21.12.2003	—
8.	The Uttar Pradesh Municipal Corporation (Amendment) (Second) Ordinance, 2003	30.10.2003	10.11.2003	21.12.2003	—
9.	The Uttar Pradesh Municipal Corporation (Third Amendment) Ordinance, 2003	30.10.2003	10.11.2003	21.12.2003	—
10.	The Uttar Pradesh Municipalities (Amendment) Ordinance, 2003	30.10.2003	10.11.2003	21.12.2003	—

APPENDIX VII

A. PARTY POSITION IN LOK SABHA (AS ON 29 JANUARY 2004)

States	Seats	BJP	INC	CPI (M)	TDP	SJP	SS	BSP	(Samata)	DMK	AIA DMK	BJD	AITC	NCP	IN LD	J&K NC	PMK	JD (U)	MD MK	RJD	RSP	AB LTC	AIFB	CPI
Andhra Pradesh	42	7	5	—	29	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arunachal Pradesh	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Assam	14	2	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bihar	40	12	2	1	—	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	4	—	—	—	—
Chhattisgarh	11	8	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Goa	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gujarat	26	21	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Haryana	10	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Himachal Pradesh	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jammu & Kashmir	6	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jharkhand	14	10	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Karnataka	28	5	17	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kerala	20	—	7	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Madhya Pradesh	29	20	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maharashtra	48	14	9	—	—	—	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Manipur	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meghalaya	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mizoram	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nagaland	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Orissa	21	9	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Punjab	13	1	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rajasthan	25	15	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sikkim	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tamil Nadu	39	4	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	11	11	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	4	—	—	—	—	—
Tripura	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uttaranchal	5	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uttar Pradesh	80	25	8	—	—	27*	—	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
West Bengal	42	2	3	22	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	2	2
Nominated	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
UNION TERRITORIES																								
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chandigarh	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Daman and Diu	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
The NCT of Delhi	7	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lakshadweep	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pondicherry	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	545	179	109	34	29	27*	15	14	12	11	11	10	8	8	5	5	5	4	4	4	3	2	2	2

* Includes three members (Kunwar Sarv Raj Singh and Sarvashri Ramakant Yadav and Bhal Chandra Yadav) expelled from Samajwadi Party and sitting seperately

APPENDIX VII (CONTD.)

A. PARTY POSITION IN LOK SABHA (AS ON 29 JANUARY 2004)

States	JD (JP)	JD (S)	JD(U) DEM	LJ SP	ML	SAD	AIM EIM	BBM	CPI (M-L)L	HVC	IF DP	JMM	KC	LD (S)	PWP	RJD (D)	RLD	SJP (R)	SAD (M)	SKD	SDF	SVP	IND	TOTAL	VACANCIES
Andhra Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	42	—
Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Assam	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	14	—
Bihar	1	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	40	—
Chhattisgarh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	—
Goa	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Gujarat	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	26	—
Haryana	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—
Himachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—
Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—
Jharkhand	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	14	—
Karnataka	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	26	2
Kerala	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	20	—
Madhya Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	28	1
Maharashtra	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	48	—
Manipur	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Meghalaya	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Mizoram	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Nagaland	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Orissa	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	21	—
Punjab	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	12	1
Rajasthan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	24	1
Sikkim	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
Tamil Nadu	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	38	1
Tripura	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Uttaranchal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—
Uttar Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	80	—
West Bengal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	42	—
Nominated	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
UNION TERRITORIES																									
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Chandigarh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Daman and Diu	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
The NCT of Delhi	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	1
Lakshadweep	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Pondicherry	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Total	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	538	7

Abbreviations used in respect of parties represented in the Lok Sabha:

BJP–Bharatiya Janata Party; INC–Indian National Congress; CPI(M) Communist Party of India (Marxist); TDP–Telugu Desam Party; SJP–Samajwadi Party; SS–Shiv Sena; BSP–Bahujan Samaj Party; DMK–Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam; SP–Samata party; AIADMK–All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam; BJD–Biju Janata Dal; AITC–All India Trinamool Congress; NCP–Nationalist Congress Party; JD(U)–Janata Dal (United); INLD–Indian National Lok Dal; J&KNC–Jammu and Kashmir National Conference; PMK–Pattali Makkal Katchi; MDMK–Marumalarchi Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam; RJD–Rashtriya Janata Dal; CPI–Communist Party of India; RJD(D)–Rashtriya Janata Dal (Democratic); RSP–Revolutionary Socialist Party; ABLTC–Akhil Bharatiya Loktantrik Congress; AIFB–All India Forward Bloc; JD(JP)–Janata Dal (JP); JD(S)–Janata Dal (Secular); LJSP–Lok Jan Shakti Party; ML–Muslim League Kerala State Committee; SAD–Shiromani Akali Dal; AIMEIM–All India Majlis–e–Ittehadul Muslimeen; BBM–Bharipa Bahujan Mahasangh; CPI(M–L)L–Communist Party of India (M–L)Liberation; HVC–Himachal Vikas Congress; IFDP–Indian Federal Democratic Party; JMM–Jharkhand Mukti Morcha; KC–Kerala Congress; LD(S)–Lok Dal(Secular); PWP–Peasants and Workers Party of India; RLD–Rashtriya Lok Dal; SJP(R)–Samajwadi Janata Party (Rashtriya); SAD(M)–Shiromani Akali Dal (S.S. Mann); SDF–Sikkim Democratic Front; IND–Independents

B. PARTY POSITION IN RAJYA SABHA (AS ON 10 MAY 2004)

Sl. No.	State/Union Territories	Seats	INC	BJP	TDP	CPI (M)	AIA-DMK	DMK	SP	RJD	Shiv Sena	BSP	*Others	IND	Total	Vacancies
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
STATES																
1.	Andhra Pradesh	18	3	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	7
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
3.	Assam	7	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	7	—
4.	Bihar	16	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	3(a)	1	16	—
5.	Chhattisgarh	5	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—
6.	Goa	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
7.	Gujarat	11	3	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	—
8.	Haryana	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5(b)	—	5	—
9.	Himachal Pradesh	3	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2(c)	—	4	—
11.	Jharkhand	6	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—
12.	Karnataka	12	6	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	8	4
13.	Kerala	9	3	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	4(d)	—	9	—
14.	Madhya Pradesh	11	7	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	—
15.	Maharashtra	19	5	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	3(e)	3	19	—
16.	Manipur	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
17.	Meghalaya	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1(f)	—	1	—
18.	Mizoram	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1(g)	—	1	—
19.	Nagaland	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1(h)	—	1	—
20.	Orissa	10	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4(i)	1	10	—
21.	Punjab	7	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2(j)	—	6	1
22.	Rajasthan	10	6	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	2
23.	Sikkim	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1(k)	—	1	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
24.	Tamil Nadu	18	2	—	—	—	9	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	18	—
25.	Tripura	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
26.	Uttaranchal	3	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
27.	Uttar Pradesh	31	2	9	—	—	—	—	9	—	—	5	1(l)	4	30	1
28.	West Bengal	16	1	—	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	4(m)	2	16	—
UNION TERRITORIES																
29.	The NCT of Delhi	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
30.	Pondicherry	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
31.	Nominated	12	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8(n)	—	11	1
	TOTAL	245	67	46	8	12	9	7	9	8	5	5	40	13	229	16

OTHERS

(Break-up of Parties/Groups)

(a) Samata Party-2; and Communist Party of India-1

(b) Indian National Lok Dal-4; and Haryana Vikas Party-1

(c) Jammu and Kashmir National Conference-1; and Peoples' Democratic Party-1

(d) Muslim League-1; Revolutionary Socialist Party-1; and Communist Party of India-1

(e) Nationalist Congress Party-2; and Republican Party of India-1

(f) Nationalist Congress Party-1

(g) Mizo National Front-1

(h) Nagaland Peoples Front-1

(i) Biju Janata Dal-4

(j) Shiromani Akali Dal-4

(k) Sikkim Democratic Front-1

(l) Akhil Bharatiya Loktantrik Congress-1

(m) Revolutionary Socialist Party-2; Forward Bloc-1; and All India Trinamool Congress-1

(n) Nominated-8

C. PARTY POSITION IN STATE LEGISLATURES

State/Union territories	Seats	Cong.(I)	Janata Dal	BJP	CPI(M)	CPI	Others Parties	Ind.	Total	Vacancies
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Andhra Pradesh L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arunachal Pradesh L.A. (1.1.2004)	60	18	—	36	—	—	4(a)	2	60	—
Assam L.A. (31.12.2003)	126	71	—	8	—	—	29(b)	18	126	—
Bihar L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bihar L.C.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chhattisgarh (5.12.2003)	90	36	—	50	—	—	3(c)	—	89	1
Delhi L.A. (17.12.2003)	70	47	—	19	—	—	2(d)	1	69	1
Goa L.A. (8.3.2004)	40	16	—	19	—	—	4(e)	1	40	—
Gujarat L.A. (1.1.2004)	182	50	—	128	—	—	2(f)	2	182	—
Haryana L.A. (1.1.2004)	90	20	—	6	—	—	52(g)	11	89●	—
Himachal Pradesh L.A. (1.1.2004)	68	43	—	16	—	—	3(h)	6	68	—
Jammu & Kashmir L.A. (27.2.2004)	89	20	—	1	2	—	53(i)	13	89	—
Jammu & Kashmir L.C.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jharkhand L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Karnataka L.A. (31.12.2003)	225	135	—	35	—	—	33(j)	18	222@	3
Karnataka L.C. (14.2.2004)	75	45	—	10	—	—	16(k)	3	74@	—
Kerala L.A. (1.1.2004)	141	62	—	—	23	7	45(l)	3	140@	—
Madhya Pradesh L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maharashtra L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maharashtra L.C.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Manipur L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meghalaya L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mizoram L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nagaland L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Orissa L.A. (1.1.2004)	147	25	—	38	1	1	73(m)	8	146@	—
Punjab L.A. (1.1.2004)	117	64	—	3	—	—	41(n)	9	117	—
Rajasthan L.A. (5.2.2004)	200	56	—	120	1	—	10(o)	13	200	—
Sikkim L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tamil Nadu L.A. (1.1.2004)	235	25	—	5	6	5	191(p)	2	234@	—
Tripura L.A. (1.1.2004)	60	13	—	—	38	1	8(q)	—	60	—
Uttaranchal L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uttar Pradesh L.A. (1.1.2004)	404	16	—	87	2	—	282(r)	16	403	1
Uttar Pradesh L.C.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
West Bengal L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

UNION TERRITORY										
Pondicherry L.A. (31.12.2003)	30	16	—	1	—	—	10(s)	2	29@	—

* Information received from the State/Union territory Legislatures contained NIL report

** Information not received from the State/Union territory Legislatures

@ Excluding Speaker/Chairman

(a) Congress (D)-2; and Unattached-2

(b) Asom Gana Parishad-21; Nationalist Congress Party-3; Autonomous State Demand Committee (United)-2; Samata Party-1; Samajwadi Party-1; and All India Trinamool Congress-1

(c) Bahujan Samaj Party-2; and Nationalist Congress Party-1

(d) Janata Dal (S)-1; and Nationalist Congress Party-1

(e) United Goans Democratic Party-1; United Goans Democratic Party (Secular)-1; Maharashtrawadi Gomantak Party-1; and Nationalist Congress Party-1

(f) Janata Dal (United)-2

(g) Indian National Lok Dal-47; Haryana Vikas Party-2; Bahujan Samaj Party-1; Nationalist Congress Party-1; Republican Party of India-1

(h) Himachal Vikas Congress-1; Himachal Loktantrik Party-1; and Lok Jan Shakti Party-1

(i) National Conference-28; Peoples Democratic Party-16; National Panthers Party-4; Bahujan Samaj Party-1; Awami League-1; Democratic Movement-1; and Nominated-2

(j) Unattached members-8; Janata Dal (ABPP)-18; Janata Dal (U)-1; Janata Dal (S)-4; AIADMK-1; and Nominated-1

(k) All India Progressive Janata Dal-9; and Janata Dal (S)-7

(l) Muslim League-16; Kerala Congress (M)-9; Janathipathya Samrakshana Samithi-4; Janata Dal (Secular)-3; Kerala Congress-2; Kerala Congress(B)-2; Kerala Congress (Jacob)-2; Revolutionary Socialist Party-2; Revolutionary Socialist Party (Bolshevik)-2; Communist Marxist Party Kerala-1; Nationalist Congress Party-1; and Congress (Secular)-1

(m) Biju Janata Dal-68; Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (A)-1; Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (B)-1; Janata Dal (Secular)-1; and Members expelled from BJD-2

(n) Shiromani Akali Dal-41

(o) Bahujan Samaj Party-2; Janata Dal (United)-2; Indian National Lok Dal-4; Rajasthan Samajik Nyaya Manch-1; and Lok Jan Shakti Party-1

(p) All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam-139; Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam-30; Pattali Makkal Katchi-19; All India Forward Bloc-1; Unattached-1; and Nominated-1

(q) Revolutionary Socialist Party-2; and Indigenous Nationalist Party of Twipra-6

(r) Samajwadi Party-190; Bahujan Samaj Party-69; Rashtriya Lok Dal-14; Reshtriya Kranti Party-4; Uttar Pradesh Loktantrik Congress-2; Akhil Bharatiya Congress-1; Akhil Bharatiya Hindu Mahasabha-1; and Nominated-1

(s) All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam-2; Tamil Manila Congress-1; and Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam-7